



Mamata not to attend NITI Aayog meeting, says it is 'fruitless'

page 12



U.K. PM Theresa May quits as Tory leader, succession race begins

page 14

**PLAYING TODAY**

England vs Bangladesh  
CARDIFF, 3 P.M.

Afghanistan vs New Zealand  
TAUNTON, 6 P.M.

Live on STAR Sports 1, 2 (SD & HD) & STAR Sports 3



Nadal tops Federer with ease, reaches his 12th French Open final

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## NEARBY



'Delhi's scheme bigger than Ayushman Bharat'

**NEW DELHI**  
The Delhi government's umbrella health scheme is "10 times bigger and comprehensive" than the Centre's scheme, Ayushman Bharat programme, wrote Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan on Friday.

CITY PAGE 3

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## DTC buses register lesser earnings: Outcome Budget

**NEW DELHI**  
State-run buses being operated by DTC registered a lower fleet size in addition to lesser earnings while ridership on Delhi Metro registered a slight increase but fell short of its target for the 2019-20 as per the Delhi government's Outcome Budget released on Friday.

CITY PAGE 3

## NPP first to become national party from N-E

**GUWAHATI**  
The Election Commission on Friday declared the National People's Party led by Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma as a national party. This made the NPP, formed by his father and former Speaker Purno A. Sangma in 2013, the first from the Northeast to earn the tag.

NEWS PAGE 12

# Kargil war veteran who was declared foreigner gets bail

Assam resident asked to initiate action against ex-official

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI**

The Gauhati High Court on Friday granted interim bail to ex-serviceman Mohammed Sanaullah, who was sent to a detention camp after a tribunal declared him a foreigner on May 23.

A team of lawyers, led by Indira Jaising and Hafiz Rashid Ahmed Choudhury, appearing for the Kargil war veteran, moved the application for his release.

After hearing the arguments, a Division Bench of Justices Manojit Bhuyan and Prasanta Kumar Deka ordered the release of the 52-year-old former Junior Commissioned Officer on his fur-



Mohammed Sanaullah

nishing a bail bond of ₹20,000 with "two local sureties of a like amount."

The court also asked Mr. Sanaullah to take steps to serve notice by registered post on Chandram Das, former investigating officer of the Assam Police's border wing, whose report in 2008

made the ex-serviceman a "foreigner."

The judges also directed the ex-serviceman not to move out of the territorial jurisdiction of Kamrup and Kamrup (Metro) districts without the approval of the Superintendent of Police (Border), Kamrup, Guwahati, where he resides, falls under Kamrup (Metro).

The court also directed the authorities to obtain Mr. Sanaullah's biometrics and fingerprints before releasing him on interim bail. "In all likelihood, he will be released from the detention centre tomorrow [Saturday]," Mr. Choudhury told *The Hindu*.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

# Jagan to have 5 Deputy CMs, to form new Cabinet mid-term

Deputies will represent the BCs, SCs, STs, minorities and Kapus

**G. VENKATARAMANA RAO AMARAVATI**

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy announced on Friday that there would be five Deputy Chief Ministers in his 25-member Cabinet, which will be sworn in on Saturday.

Addressing 151 YSR Congress Party candidates who were elected to the Assembly but have not yet been sworn in and seven MLCs at the second YSR Congress Legislature Party meeting at the Tadepalli party office, Mr. Reddy said the posts of Deputy Chief Minister would be given to five MLAs-elect belonging to the Backward Classes, the Scheduled



Striking a balance: Jagan Mohan Reddy said 90% of the Ministers would be replaced after two-and-a-half years.

Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, the minorities and the Kapus. The Kapu community has

been agitating to be included in the Backward Classes. Mr. Reddy met Governor E.S.L. Narasimhan, who

came here from Hyderabad in the evening for the swearing-in of the Cabinet, and submitted to him the list of 25 legislators to be sworn in as Ministers.

While the Chandrababu Naidu Cabinet had two Deputy CMs — one BC (K.E. Krishnamurthy) and a Kapu (Ch. China Rajappa) — Mr. Reddy has increased the number to five. Mr. Reddy told the legislators that 90% of the Cabinet members would be replaced after two-and-a-half years to give a chance to others.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

BJP CHIEF RULES OUT SPECIAL STATUS PAGE 8

## Monsoon checks in



First of the season: Two men hurry home as dark clouds gather over a river at Kadamakudy near Kochi on Friday. The IMD has forecast very heavy rain in Thrissur on Monday and in Ernakulam, Malappuram and Kozhikode on Tuesday. •THULASI KARKKAT

# Two police deserters, two Jaish men killed in Kashmir

The policemen went missing from Pulwama

**PEERZADA ASHIQ SRINAGAR**

Two Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) militants and two policemen, who went missing on Thursday with their service rifles, were killed by the security forces in Pulwama on Friday.

The police said the two militants were surrounded in a residential area at Panjan in Pulwama's Litter area on Thursday evening, triggering an encounter that continued into the night.

The operation followed a tip-off that the militants were meeting two Special Police Officers (SPOs), who

had deserted from the District Police Lines along with their rifles and intended to join the militant outfit.

"The two SPOs, who became members of the JeM, were also killed," said the police.

The slain JeM militants were Ashiq Hussain Ganaie from Pulwama's Panjan and Imran Ahmad Bhat from Arihal.

The two slain SPOs were Mohammad Salman Khan from Shopian's Uthmulla, and Shabir Ahmad Dar from Tujan, Pulwama.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

## New chief for Al-Qaeda in India

The terror outfit Al-Qaeda has announced a new chief for its India wing, Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind, two weeks after its top 'commander' Zakir Musa was killed. Hameed Lehari will replace Musa and Ghazi Ibrahim Khalid will be his deputy, a spokesman said in a video. Musa was killed on May 23 in Tral. He had replaced slain militant Burhan Wani in 2016, but quit the Hizbul Mujahideen.

PAGE 13

# Row over Army logo on Dhoni's gloves

ICC says he must remove insignia

**K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR LONDON**

M.S. Dhoni's wicket-keeping gloves have always been an object of awe among the cricketing fraternity. The manner in which he pouches catches, his lightning stumpings and reverse flick run-outs have further enhanced a halo built around his muscular batting exploits.

But little could he have imagined that his wicket-keeping gloves would actually become the focus of a raging controversy that has set social media abuzz with a torrent of views of varied persuasions.

It started with Wednesday's World Cup match at Southampton, where India defeated South Africa by six wickets. Lost in the reporting of the day's cricketing exploits was the sighting of an additional logo on Dhoni's gloves. The logo, an Army signage depicting a regimental dagger insignia of the Indian Para Special Forces, raised the hackles within cricket's governing body, the International Cricket Council (ICC), as players are only allowed to sport two logos on gloves.

Dhoni holds the rank of an honorary Lieutenant Colonel in the Territorial Army. Ever since news broke about the ICC's request to the Board of Control for Cricket in India asking



M.S. Dhoni and the gloves with the dagger insignia. •AP

Dhoni to remove the extra logo, a nationalistic narrative emerged on Twitter.

The BCCI's Committee of Administrators chief Vinod Rai backed Dhoni and said: "The BCCI has already sent a formal request to the ICC for clearance."

The ICC, however, made it clear on Friday that the extra logo had to go.

"The ICC has responded to the BCCI to confirm the logo displayed by M.S. Dhoni in the previous match is not permitted to be worn on his wicket-keeping gloves at the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019," it said in a statement. "The regulations... do not permit any individual message or logo to be displayed on any items of clothing or equipment."

# SBI to offer home loan linked to repo rate

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI**

Home loan shoppers will have a new product to opt for come July 1. The State Bank of India will introduce a product where the interest rate is linked to the repo rate of the Reserve Bank of India.

Repo rates are benchmark rates set by the RBI and those opting for the SBI's new home loan product will see interest rates moving instantly in sync with the repo rate.

Now, the SBI's home loan rates are linked to its margin-

nal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) due to which transmission of rate cuts are slower. All banks link their retail lending rates to their MCLR.

The SBI has also cut by 25 basis points (bps) its rates on cash credit and overdraft ac-

counts of over ₹1 lakh linked to the repo rate.

Also, Bank of Maharashtra reduced its lending rate by 10 bps to 8.6%. The interest rate will come down for all loans having a residual maturity of more than six months, the lender said.

# SIT to probe Aligarh murder

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT LUCKNOW**

The Uttar Pradesh police on Friday constituted a Special Investigation Team to probe the murder of an infant in Aligarh amid huge public outcry.

A forensic team will also

be part of the probe to ascertain the full nature of the crime; preliminary autopsy reports ruled out rape and concluded the child was murdered by strangulation.

DETAILS ON PAGE 13

**TESTIMONIAL**

I owe my success to the whole Nirvana IAS Academy team for guiding me throughout my journey. My success today is because of the proficiency and expertise of the teachers at Nirvana and their immense faith in their students.

When I first decided to pursue civil services, I was very skeptical about the process, full of doubts with numerous questions in my mind. Then one of my seniors from graduation days (who himself is an IAS Officer) told me about Nirvana. After the mandatory and insightful counselling session with Karam Sir, I had a very positive feeling and surprisingly I found the process relatively "not rocket science".

"Only those succeed, who don't get bogged down by the complexities and challenges of life and instead use them as the stepping stones to Glory." These words stand true to Karam Sir's approach towards the preparation process as well as general attitude towards life. I am very grateful to him and hope that this association and friendship remains for life.

The dedication and commitment of the teachers at Nirvana and their ability to make the classes so interesting is a superlative effort which is unmatched. The underlying key to the success of Nirvana is the ability of the teachers to relate to the students and identify their strengths and weaknesses which are ultimately helpful to provide personal guidance to all of them as per their need. I deeply acknowledge Nirvana IAS Academy for giving me the knowledge which has helped me shape my dreams and in making me capable of achieving them.

Shubham Gupta, AIR-6, CSE 2018

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Subhendu Jain AIR-09, 2017	Shubham Gupta AIR-07, 2018	Yashika Shrivastava AIR-02, 2018	Siddhi Gupta AIR-02, 2018	Indira Rai Rank-2, 2015	Hemanshu Khosla Rank-4, 2014	Anushka J. Rank-1 Rank-4, 2015 (Med Merit)	Misha Rank-64, 2015
Anshu Singh Puri AIR-05, 2018	Shubham Gupta AIR-04, 2018	Hemanshu Kumar Verma AIR-07, 2018	Siddhi Rank-74, 2013	Ashish Rank-76, 2014	Tanay Rank-76, 2012		

And the List Goes on....

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Announces new batches  
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### IN BRIEF

#### DU students develop female urination device

**NEW DELHI**  
A female urination vending machine, developed by DU students, has been installed at the EDMC headquarters in Patparganj. The device allows women to stand and urinate in "unfriendly toilets", a statement by the EDMC read.

#### SDMC officials commend outgoing Commissioner

**NEW DELHI**  
South Delhi Mayor, councillors and senior officials commended outgoing Commissioner Puneet Goel a fruitful tenure at a farewell event on Friday.

#### Air quality of Delhi-NCR

Delhi	173	Gurgaon	182
Ghaziabad	206	Faridabad	200
Noida	165	Greater Noida	142

Legend: Good (Green), Satisfactory (Yellow), Moderate (Orange), Poor (Red), Very poor (Dark Red), Severe (Black)

#### THE HINDU

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#### DELHI Timings

SATURDAY, JUNE 08		
RISE	05:23	SET 19:18
RISE	10:10	SET 23:53
SUNDAY, JUNE 09		
RISE	05:23	SET 19:18
RISE	11:15	SET 00:00
MONDAY, JUNE 10		
RISE	05:23	SET 19:19
RISE	12:19	SET 00:35

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	40	26
Safdarjang	40	26
Palam	42	26

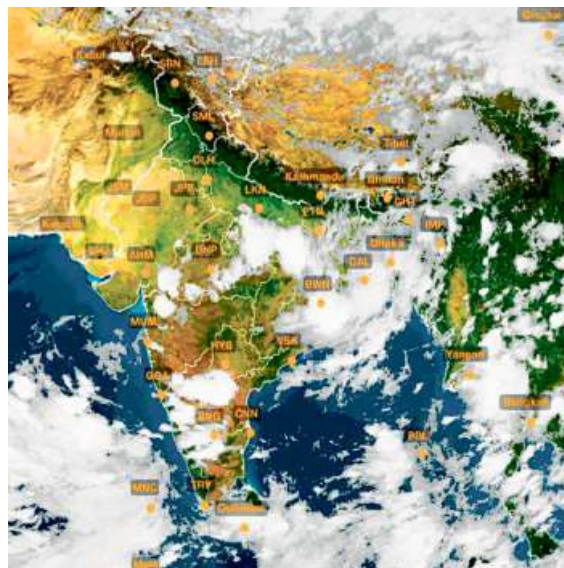
**Delhi Palam Today**  
43°C Comfortable morning with light dust haze. Day to become very hot. Pollution to be unhealthy during peak hours.

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow**  
44°C Isolated heat wave type may occur. Sky will remain mainly sunny with light warm winds.

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#### WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

**Forecast for Saturday:** Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Sikkim, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, coastal Odisha, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	...	33.5	25.2	Kozhikode	...	33.8	26.6
Ahmedabad	...	44.2	29.8	Kurnool	...	7.4	37.0
Aizawl	...	33	27.1	Lucknow	...	7.8	38.7
Allahabad	...	43.2	29.2	Madurai	...	39.0	27.8
Bengaluru	...	31.5	20.6	Mangaluru	...	35.0	22.2
Bhopal	...	45.9	32.5	Mumbai	...	34.9	28.5
Bhubaneswar	...	32.7	27.6	Mysuru	...	32.5	22.2
Chandigarh	...	40.0	26.3	New Delhi	...	40.5	26.4
Chennai	...	36.7	29.5	Patna	...	40.0	28.2
Coimbatore	...	35.7	25.5	Port Blair	...	14.5	30.2
Dehradun	...	37.4	20.8	Puducherry	...	36.2	28.6
Gangtok	...	0.5	23.3	Pune	...	37.6	25.2
Goa	...	3.3	34.0	Raipur	...	40.8	25.1
Guwahati	...	34.4	26.4	Ranchi	...	34.0	25.2
Hubballi	...	35.0	23.0	Shillong	...	22.7	16.6
Hyderabad	...	40.2	26.6	Shimla	...	0.2	27.0
Imphal	...	0.5	28.6	Srinagar	...	3.6	24.4
Jaipur	...	43.6	29.2	Trivandrum	...	41.8	32.3
Kochi	...	42.6	31.8	Tiruchi	...	40.2	28.4
Kohima	...	27.0	16.7	Vijayawada	...	56.2	40.6
Kolkata	...	31.3	27.5	Visakhapatnam	...	0.7	34.0

Pollutants in the air you are breathing				Yesterday			
CITIES	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	CODE		
Ahmedabad	...	...	...	...	...	In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Satna, Madhya Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 369 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution.	
Bengaluru	...	...	...	...	...	In contrast, Hatlia, West Bengal recorded a healthy AQI score of 24	
Chennai	...	...	...	...	...		
Delhi	...	...	...	...	...		
Hyderabad	...	...	...	...	...		
Kolkata	...	...	...	...	...		
Lucknow	...	...	...	...	...		
Mumbai	...	...	...	...	...		
Pune	...	...	...	...	...		
Visakhapatnam	...	...	...	...	...		

**Air Quality Code:** Poor (Red), Moderate (Yellow), Good (Green) (Readings indicate average AQI)  
**SO<sub>2</sub>:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.  
**NO<sub>2</sub>:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.  
**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.  
**PM<sub>2.5</sub> & PM<sub>10</sub>:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

# 'Roll back drastic changes in admission eligibility criteria'

Members of Executive, Academic Councils call changes arbitrary

#### STAFF REPORTER

**NEW DELHI**  
Members of the Executive and Academic Councils of Delhi University wrote to the Vice-Chancellor on Friday, demanding a rollback of what they termed "drastic changes" to the eligibility criteria of various undergraduate courses.

The letter specifically draws attention to "major deviations" in the eligibility criteria of seven courses. These include B.Com. (Honours), B.A. (Honours), B.A. Economics (Honours), B.Sc. Maths and Stat. (Honours), B.Sc. (Honours), B.A. (Prog). The eligibility criteria for each of these courses have been changed compared to last year in terms of either the minimum aggregate marks required or the inclusion of a compulsory subject



in the best of four.

"These changes are arbitrary, unwarranted and uncalled for as the admissions are finalised on the basis of merit as reflected in the cut-off of the various courses and thus causing chaos among the students. As per the rules and regulations of our university, such major policy decisions must be taken in the Academic Council which have far-reaching consequences for SC, ST, OBC

and EWS students. The students have been caught unaware and they must be given sufficient time to adapt themselves to these changes," the letter reads.

Even the Standing Committee constituted for the purpose of making these changes does not have the proportional representation of different segments of the elected members, it argued. The letter has been signed by Rajesh J. Jha, J.L. Gupta, Seema Das, Pradeep Kumar and Sudhanshu Kumar who are members of the two councils.

It demanded that the eligibility criteria be restored to the earlier criteria on an urgent basis and for future, changes be made in admission policy following the due procedure.

# EWS: only 3,235 apply for admissions

Standing Committee member cites lack of awareness as reason

#### SIDHARTH RAVI

**NEW DELHI**  
Out of 2.58 lakh registrations to Delhi University's undergraduate programmes, only 3,235 people have registered for admissions under the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) category, midway through the registration process. The number of students applying under the ST category stands at 4,410.

The number of applications in the EWS category might be low because of lack of awareness and information, said Rasal Singh, member of the Standing Committee on admissions.

While some confusion was created during an 'Open Day' session at Rajdhani College on Friday, when a professor claimed that students applying under this category would only avail a fee con-

cession, Mr. Singh and other officials of the Admissions Committee clarified that there would be a separate cut-off list for students applying under the EWS category. "Just like SC, ST, OBC this is a separate category," he said.

Reservations under the EWS category was introduced by the Central Government in January this year through a constitutional amendment. In order to implement the policy, DU is carrying out an expansion of its intake of students by 25%, spread over two academic sessions.

Students applying under this category are required to obtain an income certificate dated after March 31, from the area Sub-Divisional Magistrate. However, several applicants who showed up to 'Open Days' have said that

the SDMs have been turning them away with no knowledge of such certificates. DU had written to both the State and Central governments asking them to notify the SDMs.

# Open Day for female applicants

#### STAFF REPORTER

**NEW DELHI**  
A second session of the 'Open Day', to be held at DU North Campus on Saturday, will aim at resolving concerns of female applicants, said Rajeev Gupta, Dean of Students' Welfare. Panelists will include women principals and experts.

# AAP leaders get bail in defamation case

Court directs CM to appear on July 6

#### NIRNIMESH KUMAR

**NEW DELHI**  
A court here on Friday granted bail to AAP leader Atishi, its Rajya Sabha member Sushil Kumar Gupta and MLA Manoj Kumar in a defamation case filed by the BJP for their alleged remarks over deletion of names from the voters' list of the city.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is also an accused in the case but he could not appear. The court directed him to appear on July 6.

Those who appeared were granted bail on personal bond of ₹10,000 each.

The court had summoned the accused persons on March 16.

The complainant, BJP leader Rajeev Babbar, on behalf of the Delhi unit of the party sought their prosecution for harming the reputation of the outfit by blaming it for the de-

letion of names from the voters' list.

"Allegations of the respondents [Mr. Kejriwal and others] are prima facie, defamatory and refers to complainant BJP. The inquiry as contemplated under Section 202 of the Code of Criminal Procedure has been duly conducted by examining the authorised representative of the complainant and his witnesses. There exists sufficient grounds to proceed against all the respondents," the court had said while summoning the accused persons.

Mr. Babbar, in the complaint, said that the accused, at a press conference held in December last year, alleged that on the directions of the BJP, names of 30 lakh voters of Bania, Poorvanchali and Muslim communities were deleted by the Election Commission of India.

#### DELHI TODAY

**Exhibition:** "Utsav", an art show of paintings, photography, digital art and sketches at All India Fine Arts & Craft Society (AIFACS), 1 Rafi Marg, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**Exhibition:** "Breathless: An artistic call to India's air pollution crisis", a photo project shot by photographer Ishan Tankha, with stories penned by journalist Aruna Chandrasekhar at Bikaner House, Pandara Road, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Exhibition:** "Escapes & City Scapes", a solo painting show by Lena Acharya at Convention Centre Foyer, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**Screening:** "Richard Wagner: Lo-hengrin (Part I: Acts I & II)" as part of "Summer Sonata - A Festival of Opera and Ballet Films", dedicated to the memory of Dr. R.P. Jain at C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre (IIC), 6 p.m.

(Mail your listings for this column at cityedit@delhi.thehindu.co.in)

# North Mayor seeks bailout package

#### STAFF REPORTER

**NEW DELHI**  
North Delhi Municipal Corporation Mayor Avtar Singh, met the L-G on Friday and made a plea for a ₹3000-crore 'one-time bailout package' for the civic body.

The civic body has been in a disadvantageous position due to a disproportionate distribution of resources to it. It runs six major hospitals, a medical college, two ayurvedic hospitals, 100 dispensaries and about 700 schools as well as various inherited liabilities, which were supposed to be considered as a grant by the Delhi government, but have not been done so, he said.



# 'Delhi's health scheme 10 times bigger than Ayushman Bharat'

Kejriwal writes to Harsh Vardhan after latter asks CMs of 3 States to join scheme

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi government's umbrella health scheme was "10 times bigger and comprehensive" than the Centre's scheme Ayushman Bharat programme, wrote Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan on Friday.

The Centre-sponsored scheme aims to provide coverage of ₹5 lakh per family, annually, supposedly benefiting more than 10.74 crore poor families in relation to secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation through a network of empanelled healthcare providers.

Mr. Kejriwal said the average citizen would be at a loss if the government's health scheme is replaced with Ayushman Bharat here.

His comments came in the wake of Dr. Vardhan writing to the Chief Ministers of Delhi, Odisha, Telangana and West Bengal urging them to join the

## Objections raised

- Less than 10% of the total population of Delhi will benefit
- Citizens with income more than ₹10,000/month out of the ambit
- Beneficiaries can claim treatment benefits only up to ₹5 lakh
- Citizens belonging to the middle class out of the ambit
- Benefits only upon admission to hospital, not for tests or medicines

**I am happy to tell you that Ayushman Bharat has already been implemented in Delhi a long time ago. The government's health scheme is 10 times bigger and comprehensive than Ayushman Bharat**

ARVIND KEJRIWAL, Chief Minister

Centre's flagship health insurance scheme.

"I am happy to tell you that Ayushman Bharat has already been implemented in Delhi a long time ago. The government's health scheme is 10 times bigger and comprehensive than Ayushman Bharat," Mr. Kejriwal said.

In his two-page letter in Hindi, Mr. Kejriwal said in spite of the implementation of Ayushman Bharat in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, lakhs of patients from these States come

here daily for treatment while the opposite is not true and, in effect, indicated that Delhi's health scheme was functioning well.

"Those whose income is more than ₹10,000 does not come under Ayushman Bharat, which means those earning less than minimum wages [notified by the government] is out of this scheme," Mr. Kejriwal said.

## Comparison drawn

He also sought to draw a comparison between his

government's scheme and Ayushman Bharat. Under the Ayushman Bharat there were less than 10% beneficiaries in Delhi while under the AAP government's scheme, every citizen constituting the Capital's population of two crore could be a beneficiary, he said.

The Chief Minister also said that while under Ayushman Bharat beneficiaries could get treatment of up to ₹5 lakh but under the AAP dispensation's scheme, there was no such limit and hence, the government bears all expenses, even if these amounted up to ₹30 lakh.

"The objective of both the Centre and the Delhi government is the same — the provision of inexpensive and quality treatment to the citizens of the country, no matter under which scheme... There is a good scheme, which is currently functional in Delhi... If our model suffers from any deficiencies, please let us know so we can improve it..." Mr. Kejriwal added.

## Outcome Budget biggest achievement, says Sisodia

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The biggest achievement of the Delhi government in the field of governance was the "successful" implementation of the Outcome Budget for several years in a row, said Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Friday.

"I consider Outcome Budget as the biggest achievement of our government in past 4.5 years in the field of governance," he said at a national conference on outcome budgeting organised by Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi. He also released the Outcome Budget of the government for 2019-20. The budget, introduced in 2017-18, had helped in removing bottlenecks to improve the delivery of services and goods to people, he added. The exercise tracks the performance of 567 schemes and programmes of the government through nearly 2,000 quantifiable indicators.

Mr. Sisodia said the Outcome Budget was the force behind big-ticket reforms by the government in power and water supply, education and health services and the doorstep delivery services.

## State-run DTC buses register drop in fleet size, ridership: Outcome Budget

Installation of CCTV cameras remains static among others

JATIN ANAND  
JAIDEEP DEO BHANJ  
NEW DELHI

State-run buses operated by the Delhi Transport Corporation reduced in fleet-size and registered lesser earnings while Delhi Metro trains saw a slight increase yet falling short of its target for the year as per the Delhi government's Outcome Budget released on Friday.

While the number of cluster buses being operated by the government remained static, these registered more ridership and earnings than targeted even as significant initiatives such as the installation of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) camera and the deployment of marshals aboard all public buses remained static and registered slow progress, respectively.

## Big-ticket initiatives

Big-ticket initiatives like procurement of vehicles for the creation of a fleet of electric buses and the installation of WiFi services across the Capital were pushed forward by a year to March 2020 and September 2020 respectively.

Meanwhile, the provision of water lines at unauthorised colonies could not be achieved as per the

set target. The DJB laid water pipelines in 144 unauthorised colonies during the financial year 2018-19, falling 147 short of the target of 291.

The number of operational DTC buses was 3,974 in 2017-18 and the target was to raise it to 4,176 in 2018-19, however, it reduced to 3,897.

The average daily ridership improved slightly being registered at 33 lakh as against a target of 32.93 lakh in 2018-19.

Earnings per km were targeted at ₹31.10 in 2018-19 but stood at ₹30.32. In terms of earnings per bus per day, the amount registered stood at ₹5,898 as against the target of ₹5,931 in 2018-19.

Cluster buses, however, registered an average ridership of 12.24 lakh compared to the targeted 12 lakh and per km earnings of ₹30.30 in comparison to the target of ₹20.55

## Safety of passengers

The number of bus marshals deployed for the safety of passengers was 2,153 in DTC buses in 2017-18.

In 2018-19, the number was to be raised to 4,280 but only 3,041 were available in the buses.

There was no progress

in installing CCTV cameras in buses as successive bids for it in December 2018 and January 2019 failed and these remained available only on 200 buses.

## Education sector

In the education sector, the government has managed to fill 95% of its target when it comes to providing quality early childhood education by introducing nursery classes with a ratio of 30 students to one teacher.

As many as 448 schools under the Directorate of Education have managed to enrol a total of 19,108 students.

Under its scheme to provide teachers with tablet computers to monitor student-wise learning achievement, the government has managed to provide 67% of its teachers with tablets.

The Outcome Budget data also shows that in 2018-19, 71.58% of students passed in their Class X exams while 94.24% passed in Class XII exams.

When it comes to its much publicised scheme of building additional classrooms, the data shows that 8,095 classrooms have been made functional with a target of 12,000 classrooms by the end of the year.

## AAP to seek feedback on free-ride scheme

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday directed AAP legislators and councillors to hold consultative public meetings to seek feedback from citizens about the government's proposal to make travel aboard public buses and metro trains free for women.

At a press conference in Mr. Kejriwal's official residence here on Friday, his Deputy Manish Sisodia said the former had held a meeting with AAP MLAs, councillors and the party's women's wing to issue directions to hold 1,000 sabhas with this objective across Delhi.

"Mr. Kejriwal has directed all AAP MLAs, councillors to hold 1,000 small public meetings across Delhi to take people's feedback on the scheme. The MLAs and council-

## 'DMRC looking at ways to roll out scheme'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

The DMRC is "exploring ways" to take forward the Delhi government's decision to make metro rides free for women while keeping in mind the financial implication and technical feasibility associated with the proposal, said official sources on Friday.

lors have been asked to hold 10 small meetings in their respective areas," Mr. Sisodia said.

He added that during the meetings, AAP leaders will ask people the reason behind their support. "Mr. Kejriwal has asked them to submit the outcome of these meetings in a week," Mr. Sisodia added.

## Met forecasts severe heatwave in city

'Possibility of thunderstorms on June 11'

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The Met department has forecast severe heatwave in the city for the next 48 hours with the maximum temperature likely to record 46 degrees Celsius at Safdarjung weather station.

Areas such as Palam and Ayazgar are likely to record 1-2 degrees higher temperatures than Safdarjung.

The weather bulletin stated that mainly, there will be clear sky on Saturday and June 9 with heatwave conditions likely at a few places till June 10.

"Severe heatwave at isolated pockets on June 10; heatwave conditions at isolated pockets on June 9 and June 11 with the possibility of thundery development on June 10; duststorm/thunderstorm accompanied by gusty winds on June 11," reads the extended forecast.

On Friday, the mercury dipped marginally to settle at 40.5 degrees Celsius, which is normal for the season after a strong wind cooled down the city overnight.

The minimum temperature was recorded at 26.4 degrees Celsius. Humidity levels oscillated between 36% and 64%.

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IN BRIEF



**Patel takes oath as Chief Justice of HC**  
NEW DELHI  
Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel was sworn in as Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court on Friday. Lt. Governor Anil Bajjal administered the oath of office to Justice Patel at a function held at Raj Nivas here.

**Woman held for forging neighbour's signature**

NEW DELHI  
A 49-year-old woman was arrested from Uttam Nagar's Mohan Garden for allegedly cheating her neighbour by withdrawing ₹3.6 lakh from her account by forging her signature.

**Man held for stealing iron scrap worth ₹35 lakh**

NEW DELHI  
A 34-year-old man identified as Naushad Warsi, a resident of Bhajan Pura, has been arrested for allegedly stealing 12 tons of iron scrap worth ₹ 35 lakh belonging to Indian Railways.

**Shortage of anti-rabies vaccine**

**DPCC rapped for not acting on plastic burning**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI  
Delhi government hospitals are facing "acute shortage" of anti-rabies vaccine due to a fall in drug supply, prompting the Centre to call a meeting of health officers and hospital in-charges on Friday, officials said.  
The LNJP Hospital, GB Pant Hospital and other city government-run facilities are facing shortage as the suppliers are unable to replenish the anti-rabies vaccine (ARV).  
A senior health ministry official said that a meeting chaired by the Director General of Health Services was convened to discuss the situation, and officials were assured all possible help to tackle the crisis.

**Woman ends life over tiff**

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI  
A 26-year-old woman hailing from Bihar, allegedly jumped to death after an argument with husband in South West Delhi's Ghitori on Friday, the police said.

The police said that the couple got married in 2015 and her husband works as a tailor. "Around

**25-year-old man dies in police custody, family suspects foul play**

Three cops suspended; kin allege police demanded ₹20,000 for his release

HEMANI BHANDARI  
NEW DELHI

Three policemen were suspended after a 25-year-old man, who was arrested for allegedly supplying illicit liquor in North East Delhi's Nand Nagri, died in police custody on Thursday night. While the police claimed that the trio were suspended for procedural lapse, the victim's family alleged that he was beaten to death.

Additional DCP (North East) R.P. Meena said that the victim, identified as Govinda, was a resident of Khoda Colony and had no previous criminal history. He was arrested with one Naem around 7 a.m. on Thursday from Sundar Nagri while they were transporting illicit liquor in an autorickshaw. "They were brought to Nand Nagri police station. Around 9 p.m., Govinda complained of uneasiness after which he fell unconscious. He was taken to Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital where he was given CPR after which he died," Mr. Meena said.



Relatives of the victim outside Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital. ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The officer said that head constable Abhishek and constables Vishal and Udhram Singh were suspended for procedural lapse. "They did not follow the procedure while registering the FIR. So far, there is no role of any officer in his death," Mr Meena said.

**'Demanded bribe'**  
Meanwhile, Govinda's family claimed that the police demanded ₹20,000 for his release and they didn't even inform them about his death. They suspect that he was beaten to death.  
Govinda's brother Gopal

said that the victim was a labourer and on Thursday, he was asked by his friend Naem to unload some material in Sundar Nagri. "Naem told him that he will get ₹300 for the day. We don't think that he was aware that Naem was doing illegal work. He was caught from there with Naem and two others," he said adding that they were later informed that the police had released the two, whom the illicit liquor belonged to, after taking money.  
The victim's relative Reshma said that after she came to know about Govinda's arrest,

she went to the police station with Gopal. But they were not allowed to meet Govinda despite repeated attempts. "Late evening, they demanded ₹20,000 for releasing him. I said we can't afford such huge amount and we paid ₹10,000. But they didn't release him," she alleged.  
A few hours later, as the family waited outside the police station, the police allegedly took Govinda to GTB Hospital but "didn't tell them the reason". He was allegedly brought back to the police station where Reshma was waiting. "Around 2 a.m., a few journalists came and told us that he is dead," she said.  
His family claimed that Govinda had no previous medical history and was healthy.

When asked about the allegations levelled by the victim's family, Mr. Meena said that it will be looked into. "An autopsy was conducted by a board of doctors and the procedure was videographed. A magisterial inquiry has been initiated into his death," he added.

**Deceased was a YouTuber, made videos on social issues**

HEMANI BHANDARI  
NEW DELHI

Govinda, who died in police custody in Nand Nagri on Thursday night, was a YouTuber. He used to act in videos with his group called Jars Team.

His team members said that the group was formed about five-six years ago and they used to make comedy videos on social issues. On the YouTube channel, they have over 1,500 subscribers and thousands of viewers.

"Govinda was a fine actor. He was very passionate about acting," said Basrudin, a member of the group, adding that Govinda wanted to make a difference through the videos. His family said that Govinda was tech-savvy and also knew how to edit videos. "After he started working on the videos, he was engaged in them. I would often ask him about getting married but he wouldn't care," said his father Ram Yadav adding that he used to act in local plays on occasions like Ram Leela.

**Money-laundering case filed against Raghav Bahl**

Media baron seeks Minister's intervention

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has registered a money-laundering case against media website founder Raghav Bahl, based on complaints filed by the Income-Tax (IT) Department alleging non-disclosure of the source of money used for buying a London asset. Mr. Bahl sought the intervention of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

**'Proof submitted'**

In a letter to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Mr. Bahl on Friday sought her intervention, saying that adequate explanation and proof had already been submitted to the IT Department that the amount, ₹2.73 lakh, had come from the tax-paid income of his wife Ritu Kapoor and was disclosed in her I-T return.

"I have been constrained

to write this to you as an honest and law-abiding citizen of India, who is getting the sense of being hounded for doing no wrong despite paying all taxes honestly and diligently. I also have no defaults when it comes to the debt obligations of myself or my business concerns," the letter said.

Mr. Bahl said he had on May 13 provided full details after the Department claimed that he had failed to disclose information, as a result of which they presumed the amount to arise from proceeds of undisclosed income (black money), as per two show cause notices served to him by email in the afternoon of May 1. "I was given only until 3.30 p.m. on May 2, 2019, to answer the notices, and following an exchange of emails with the concerned officer, I provided a short factual reply to the authorities," he said.

**Defamation case: Tharoor gets bail**

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Friday granted bail to Congress MP Shashi Tharoor in a criminal defamation case for his alleged 'scorpion' remark against Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Samar Vishal granted bail to Mr. Tharoor on furnishing a personal bond of ₹20,000.

**Two criminals held after shoot-out**

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Two members of Nasir gang, who carry a reward on their arrest, were nabbed after an exchange of fire in Mukhmelpur in the early hours of Friday, the police said.

DCP (Special Cell) P.S. Kushwah said that the accused are brothers and have been identified as Salman and Nazim. While Salman carried a reward of ₹1 lakh

on his arrest, Nazim had a bounty of ₹50,000. They are both residents of New Seelampur.

"The shoot-out took place in north-west Delhi's Pusta Road in Mukhmelpur around 4 a.m. on Friday when they were coming on a bike. Around eight rounds were fired by the duo while the police fired six rounds in retaliation," Mr. Kushwah said adding that Salman sus-

tained a bullet injury in his right leg and was rushed to Babu Jagjivan Ram Hospital.

The police claimed that the two along with their associates killed one Hakimuddin in New Usmanpur on March 31. "They were also involved in the murder of one Sarfaraz in Krishna Nagar on April 5," Mr. Kushwah said. Both murders were a result of gang rivalry, said the police.

**Man found murdered in South Avenue**

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

A 52-year-old man was found dead in quarters allotted for house helps in South Avenue in the early hours of Friday. The police have detained three persons for

questioning in connection with the case.

DCP (New Delhi) Madhur Verma said that the victim was identified as Suresh. His wife Anju who works as a house help in VIP houses in the area was allot-

ted the quarters. The victim's body was found with throat slit.

"In the CCTV footage, two persons can be seen entering the area wearing masks and returning," a senior officer said.

**SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED/MISSING**



General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Sulekha Kumari D/o Sh. Pramod Ram, R/o H. No. 191, Bank Enclave, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi Age: 14 years, Height: 4'7", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: Blue Colour Suit and Salwar** has been kidnapped/ missing since **25.05.2019** from the area of PS Laxmi Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **FIR No. 142/19 U/s 363 IPC dated 27.05.2019** has been registered at PS Laxmi Nagar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this girl please inform undersigned.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO  
E-mail Id - [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) PS Laxmi Nagar, Delhi  
Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641 Ph.: 011-22542992,  
Fax No. 011-24368639 Lx.: 011-22542992,  
DP/6854/ED/19 8750870622

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Amit Kumar S/o Harpal Singh, R/o D-284, Shani Chowk, Lajpat Nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, U.P.** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 154/18 u/s 376-D/366/342/34 IPC** has been registered at P.S. Geeta Colony, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Amit Kumar** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Amit Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Amit Kumar** accused of **FIR No. 154/18 u/s 376-D/366/342/34 IPC**, P.S. Geeta Colony, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer said complaint on or before **15.07.2019**.

By Order  
**Sh. Jitender Pratap Singh, Metropolitan Magistrate, Court No. 15, DP/1041/SHD/19-(Court Matter) Karkardoona Court, Delhi**

**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY** E-Tender Notice  
Opened E-Tender based on two Packet system (Technical & Financial bid) Tender Notice No. M/C&W/11/2019-20 dt. 03-06-2019 are invited by Divisional Rail Manager/Mech./C&W/Varanasi/North Eastern Railway for and on behalf of President of India for following work:-

Description of work	Approx. Value (Rs.)	EMD Money (Rs.)
Mechanized Cleaning (Interior & Exterior) watering, Padlocking of 55 coaches along with Upper gear passenger amenity maintenance work in coaches daily on pit lines at BUI, GCT & AMH, provision of toiletries in 07 AC coaches daily at W-Pit/GCT, mechanized cleaning (interior) watering & Padlocking in 57 coaches of M/Exp. turn round trains and 50 coaches of passenger turn round trains daily at station/platform of BUI, GCT & AMH, mechanized cleaning of depot premises, pit line, Service Building sumpwell, drain cleaning and garbage disposal of coaching depot BUI, GCT & AMH for the period of four years.	₹ 12,81,45,279.88	₹ 7,90,700/-

Cost of Tender Forms : ₹ 10,000/-  
Completion period from the date of commencement of work: 04 Years  
Validity of Offer: 60 days.

- Date and time of closing of E-Tender: 04-07-2019 at 14:30 hrs.
- Date and time of opening of E-Tender: 04-07-2019 at 15:00 hrs.

Tenderers may submit their offers online up to 04-07-2019 at 14:30 hrs. ● Please go to the website [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in) to see the complete details and upload the tender.

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**Office of the Director**  
**Directorate of Technical Education, Vocational and Industrial Training**  
**Sunder Nagar, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh**

Invitation for Bids No.:005/2019 Date: 05/06/2019

Loan/Grant No. and Title: Loan No. 3573-IND/Himachal Pradesh Skill Development Project. Contract Package No. and Title: HPSDP-DOTE/05; Supply of **Hand Tools and related equipment's** for Industrial Training Institutes to enhance Technical and Vocational Skills among the youth of Himachal Pradesh (Package-05), comprising of following lots:  
**Lot-1:** General Purpose hand tools  
**Lot-2:** Precision, power and safety tools  
**Lot-3:** Workshop light work hand tools  
Deadline for Submission of Bids **5<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 13:30 hrs. (IST)**

1. India has applied for financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of "Himachal Pradesh Skill Development Project" and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to the payment under the Contract Package named above. Bidding is open to Bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.

2. The Directorate of Technical Education, Vocational and Industrial Training, Himachal Pradesh, represented by the Director ("The Purchaser") invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the Supply of **Hand Tools and related equipment's** for Industrial Training Institutes.  
**Lot-1:** General Purpose hand tools  
**Lot-2:** Precision, power and safety tools  
**Lot-3:** Workshop light work hand tools

3. National Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Single-stage: Two-envelope bidding procedure and is open to all Bidders from eligible countries as described in the Bidding Document.

4. Only eligible Bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in this bidding:  
a) Successful completion as main supplier within the last three (3) years, of at least One (1) contract with nature, and complexity similar to the scope of supply described in Section 6 (Schedule of Supply). The contract value Lot-wise is indicated below:  
**INR 124.59 Lakhs** for Lot-1 (General Purpose hand tools)  
**INR 77.68 Lakhs** for Lot-2 (Precision, power and safety tools)  
**INR 23.51 Lakhs** for Lot-3 (Workshop light work hand tools)  
Bidder bidding for more than 1 (one) Package has to submit the Work Experience accordingly.

b) Minimum average annual turnover as indicated below calculated as total payments received by the Bidder for contracts completed or under execution over the last three (3) years.  
The Average Annual Turnover Lot-wise is indicated below:  
**INR 311.47 Lakhs** for Lot-1 (General Purpose hand tools)  
**INR 194.21 Lakhs** for Lot-2 (Precision, power and safety tools)  
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c) However, for complete eligibility and qualification requirements, bid document should be referred.

5. To obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents, Bidders should contact:  
Attention: The Director,  
Directorate of Technical Education, Vocational and Industrial Training  
Circular Road, Lajli Chowk, Sunder Nagar,  
District: Mandi, Himachal Pradesh - ZIP code: 175018  
Country: India  
Telephone & Fax: 01907-266120; 266722  
E-mail address: [techedu-hp@nic.in](mailto:techedu-hp@nic.in)

6. To purchase the bidding documents in English language, eligible Bidders should write or visit at the office of the Purchaser at address stated above and pay a non-refundable fee of INR 10,000 in the form of Bank Demand Draft. In case of written request, the document will be sent by post and no liability will be accepted, for loss or late delivery.  
The eligible bidders may otherwise download the bidding document for English language from the website [http://himachal.nic.in/index1.php?lang=1&dept\\_id=2&level=1&id=1151&sublinkid=1900](http://himachal.nic.in/index1.php?lang=1&dept_id=2&level=1&id=1151&sublinkid=1900), such bidders shall be required to submit INR 10,000 with their bid in the form of Bank demand draft in the name of the Director Technical Education, Sundernagar, HP towards cost of bidding document.

7. Deliver your bid to the address above  
8. On or before the deadline: **5<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 13:30 hrs. (IST)** together with a Bid Security as described in the Bidding Document.  
9. Bids will be opened on **5<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 14:30 hrs. (IST)** in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.  
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## Police register case against BJD MLA

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA BHUBANESWAR**  
A PWD junior engineer, who was allegedly forced by a newly elected BJD MLA in Odisha to do sit-ups in public, on Friday claimed the legislator had also asked an executive engineer to slap him, even as the police registered a case against the lawmaker.  
The alleged "rowdiness" of Saroj Kumar Meher, first-time MLA from Patnagarh in Bolangir district, also triggered a row with the Opposition BJP coming down heavily on the BJD government and demanding immediate arrest of the lawmaker and the Congress condemning the incident.  
Mr. Meher, who drew flak after a video purportedly showed him forcing a PWD junior engineer to do sit-ups in public went viral, on Thursday apologised for his action, claiming he did so to assuage public anger. Later on Thursday, the engineer's wife lodged a complaint with the police against the MLA, accusing him of publicly humiliating her husband.

# 26 dead, 57 hurt in U.P. dust storms, lightning

Mainpuri district bore the brunt with six deaths

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LUCKNOW**  
Severe dust storms and lightning in different parts of Uttar Pradesh claimed at least 26 lives and left 57 people injured as houses and walls collapsed and trees were uprooted, prompting authorities to launch large-scale relief operations on Friday.  
Mainpuri district bore the worst brunt of the vagaries of nature late on Thursday night as six people died there in separate cases of wall collapse and lightning, the State Relief Commissioner said.  
Forty-one people were injured in the district and uprooted trees blocked vehicular movement on the State highways, leading to massive jams.  
Police said most of the injuries occurred when people sleeping inside their mud houses were caught unawares by the storm, which was accompanied by rain, leading to wall collapse. People were also injured



CM Adityanath announced ₹4 lakh compensation for the kin of the deceased.

when signboards and hoardings got snapped at several places, and fell on them, they said.  
"While six people died in Mainpuri, three each died in Etah and Kasganj, two each in Farrukhabad and Barabanki, and one each in Moradabad, Badaun, Pilibhit, Mathura, Kannauj, Sambhal, Ghaziabad, Amroha, Badaun and Mahoba in incidents related to dust storm and lightning," data released by the State Relief Commission

sioner said.  
An official press note said different parts of the State witnessed dust storms late on Thursday evening, resulting in wall collapse and uprooting of trees.  
Thirty-one cattle died and 16 houses were also damaged in the incidents, officials said.

**Massive power cuts**  
Massive power cuts were reported from various parts of the State, including Lucknow, as electricity lines got snapped in the area.  
Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath directed officials to take all necessary measures to provide relief to the affected people.  
"He (Adityanath) has directed Ministers in charge of the districts concerned to oversee relief operations," Awanish Awasthi, Principal Secretary (Information), said.  
A financial assistance ₹4 lakh has been announced by the Chief Minister for the family of the deceased.

## STF to identify policemen in league with drug traffickers

CM Amarinder strives to check drug menace in Punjab

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH**  
In an attempt to check the growing drug trade across the State, Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh has directed the Special Task Force (STF) to identify and take stringent action against policemen found to be in cahoots with drug traffickers, especially in the border districts.  
The Special Task Force held a meeting in Chandigarh on Friday, in which Capt. Amarinder asked the Punjab Police chief to deal firmly with policemen engaged in such unlawful activity. "The Chief Minister directed the ADGP (STF/Drugs) to constitute two STF teams in all border



Punjab CM Amarinder Singh.

districts to work in close coordination with the concerned police officials and maintain strict vigil over their nefarious activities in order to eradicate the scourge of drugs," an official statement said.  
The CM also directed the health department to regularly monitor the working of

private drug de-addiction centres, which were found to be providing substandard services while charging exorbitant rates for the treatment of addicts.

**Legal training**  
The statement added that the Punjab Advocate General was asked to form a panel of eminent legal luminaries who will impart practical training to the police personnel to enable them to effectively present their cases in court. "Such hands-on training would equip the police officials handling legal cases against drug traffickers, peddlers, smugglers etc., in an effective and result-oriented manner (sic)," said the statement.

## Extend PM's scholarship scheme: MP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI

An Assam MP has asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to extend the PM's Scholarship Scheme to children of forest personnel who get killed guarding nature.  
The scholarship is for wards of ex-Servicemen who pass Class X and Class XII.  
"Forest personnel are also government servants who often lose their lives in the line of duty. Forest guards, beat officers and rangers are uniformed soldiers who have the authority to register cases, arrest people and carry weapons," Gaurav Gogoi, who represents Kallabor parliamentary constituency, wrote in his letter to the Prime Minister.

## Adityanath raises Ram temple issue in Ayodhya

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA AYODHYA**  
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday offered prayers at the makeshift Ram Lalla temple here, reiterating support for the construction of a temple at the disputed site.  
"According to the expectations of the world, I wish a Ram temple is built soon in Ayodhya," he said as he unveiled a seven-foot rosewood statue of Lord Ram at the city's Shodh Sanshan Museum. On his first visit to the temple town after elections, Mr. Adityanath also took part in celebrations to mark the birthday of Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas chief Mahant Nritya Gopal Das.

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2018	63	-34.3%

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F. No. DPCC/WMC I&III/2019/  
**Kind Attention: All Health Care Facilities operating in NCT of Delhi**

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India has notified the Bio Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016, for the proper management of the Bio Medical Waste. As per these rules all persons who generate, collect, receive, store, transport, treat, dispose, or handle bio medical waste in any form including Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Clinics, Dispensaries, Veterinary Institutions, Animal Houses, Pathological Laboratories, Blood Banks, Ayush Hospitals, Clinical Establishments, Research or Educational Institutions, Health Camps, Medical or Surgical Camps, Vaccination Camps, Blood Donation Camps, First Aid rooms of Schools, Forensic Laboratories and Research Labs are required to obtain mandatory authorization under the Rules, from DPCC.

All the health care facilities operating in NCT of Delhi are hereby directed to apply for authorization under the Bio-medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 at the earliest but not later than 15/06/19. Action shall be taken against any health care facility found operating without applying for authorization in DPCC/ not having valid authorization from DPCC after 15/06/19 including closure of the facility and/ or levying of Environmental Damage Compensation charges.

**Arun Mishra**  
Member Secretary  
Spl. Secretary (Environment)  
Member Secretary (DPCC)  
Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi  
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DIP/Shabdarth/0176/19-20

**OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE**

**DEATH**  
Sad Demise  
  
Mr. Jaishankar Ganesan (54 years) S/o Late Ganesan.K (Retd. Railways) has left for his heavenly abode on 6th June 2019.  
Deeply mourned by Parvathy (Mother), Sridhar, Ravishankar, Mallika (Siblings).  
7338955168, 9840224343

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES**  
**THIRD ANNIVERSARY**  
  
S. SHANMUGAVADIVEL B.A., B.L., D.S.S. Rtd. Asst. Commissioner of Labour, Chennai.  
Fondly remembered by the FAMILY

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES**  
**SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY**  
  
R. PADMAVATHI "Missing you a lot more than ever" Radhakrishnan R (RK)

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES**  
**THIRD ANNIVERSARY**  
  
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**GARIMA AGGARWAL** IAS 2018 RANK : 40

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SIDHARTH GOYAL	163	ANUJ KUMAR SINGH	441
SIDDHARTHA NAHAR	187	NAVEEN TANWAR	484
ABHINAV VISHWAKARMA	196	ABHISHEK KUMAR	595
SHAMBHAVI MISHRA	199	SUDHAMBHIKA	624
TAWARE KSHITIJ KISHOR	239	HEMANT SINGH	679
ANKITA JAIN	270	DEVESH	686
DEEPTI BAGGA	297	JAISH KUMAR	703
JVALIN TEJPAL	301	VISHWAJIT G. CHIMANKAR	718
ANIL GOYAL	305	AMAN PRAKASH MEENA	724

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11 June 12 pm

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By **Hemant Jha**

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By **Hemant Jha** के साथ बैच प्रारंभ

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Jasleen Kaur	M.Sc.	296	152
Sidharth Goyal	MBA	298	153
Siddhartha Nahar	B.A.	276	182
Singhvi R Kundanmal	B.Sc. (Phy.)	286	202
Shaikh Md Zaib Zakir	Mec. Eng.	283	225
Alok Kumar Tiwari	B.Tech+MBA	270	332
Hari Shankar	B.A.	295	428
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**Priyanka Shukla** IAS TOPPER

09 JUNE 06:15PM HOW TO CRACK CIVIL SERVICES EXAMINATION  
**Jojo Mathew**

10 JUNE 06:15PM COMPLETE STRATEGY FOR HISTORY & INDIAN CULTURE  
**Hemant Jha**

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**JUNE 10 & 24 JULY 10 | 8:00am**

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कार्यशाला के साथ बैच प्रारंभ  
**इतिहास** **JUNE 10** 08:30am  
By **Hemant Jha**

कार्यशाला के साथ बैच प्रारंभ  
**समाजशास्त्र** **JUNE 17** 08:30am  
By **Dharmendra** Dharmendra's Sociology

B-19, ALS House, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-09  
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19<sup>th</sup> June

By **Vivek Sir** Answer Writing Perfection Assured for 300+

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10<sup>th</sup> June

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TOPPER'S JOURNEY BY SACHIN ARORA

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Target disbursal of more crop loans, Fadnavis tells banks

Says Maharashtra govt. will take action against banks that refuse loans to farmers

ALOK DESHPANDE MUMBAI

With only 54% of the targeted crop loans being disbursed in 2018-19, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis issued stern instructions to banks on Friday to ensure that the numbers are significantly higher this year.

Mr. Fadnavis said, "The demand for crop loans was less last year owing to drought. This year, the demand is likely to increase, but banks are likely to face action if they are found not providing crop loans to farmers." The Chief Minister was addressing a press conference after a State-level kharif review meeting. A total of 151 hectares is under kharif crops in the State, of which 55%-60% is under cotton and soybean cultivation, 10% rice, 8% sugarcane, and 11% corn.

'Good production' Mr. Fadnavis said, "Compared with last year, this year's production is good. Credit goes to agricultural investment and reducing dependency on rain." In 2017-



Setting goals: Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis (right) interacts with the media after holding a State-level kharif review meeting in Bandra on Friday. - EMMANUAL YOGINI

18, total production was 118.58 lakh million tonnes, while in 2018-19, it was 115.7 lakh million tonnes. Mr. Fadnavis claimed that the government had invested around ₹1.50 lakh crore in agriculture and allied activities, including ₹34,000 crore for irrigation, ₹8,900 crore for Jalyukta Shivar, ₹19,000 crore for loan waivers, ₹14,125 crore for assistance

to farmers in natural calamities, and ₹16,778 crore for crop insurance.

On the Prime Minister's Krishi Sanman Scheme, Mr. Fadnavis said a change in criteria had benefited around 1.20 crore farmers in Maharashtra. He gave orders to upload the details of all beneficiaries on the scheme's website before June 30. Mr. Fadnavis said the India Mete-

orological Department (IMD) has forecast less than average rainfall in June. "The State government has appealed to farmers to delay sowing since monsoon is likely to be delayed," he said. According to the IMD, Konkan and central Maharashtra will receive 93%-107% rainfall, Marathwada will receive 90%-111%, and Vidarbha 92%-108%.

Prakash Ambedkar alleges discrepancies in poll figures

Appeals to political parties to verify numbers in all States

ALOK DESHPANDE MUMBAI

Prakash Ambedkar, Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) leader, on Friday alleged that discrepancies have been found in the number of votes polled, counted and declared by the Election Commission or the Election Returning Officer in all 48 Lok Sabha constituencies in Maharashtra. At a press conference, Mr. Ambedkar said, "In 26 parliamentary constituencies, the number of votes counted on May 23 is less than the number of votes cast. In another 22 constituencies, the number of the votes counted is more than the votes cast."



Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi chief Prakash Ambedkar (right) at the party office in Ballard Estate on Friday. - ARUNANGSU ROY CHOWDHURY

'Not an exception' Mr. Ambedkar said that of the 26 seats, where there was a shortfall in the votes counted, Raigad has the least difference in the figures (16), while Parbhani has the highest difference of 2,101. Of the 22 seats where more votes had been counted, Wardha has the highest difference (1,380), while Raver has the least difference: 8. Mr. Ambedkar said that

exceptions can be made for one or two constituencies, but not all constituencies. He said, "We also appeal to all political parties in different States to carry out the same exercise to verify discrepancies. In case there are discrepancies, the next course of action is filing a petition in the respective High Courts. I firmly believe that the judiciary has the right to strike down any election only after that election is over. It can do so if it is proved that an election was held in an illegal, unfair manner or

any other grounds mentioned in the Representation of the People Act, 1951." Demands EC response The VBA has sought an explanation from the Election Commission of India for these discrepancies. Mr. Ambedkar said, "Now, it is up to the citizens of this country to decide whether or not we should continue with the use of EVMS. These discrepancies adequately point out that EVMS are not foolproof and there are chances of foul play."

Monsoon likely to be 'below normal'

Deficit rains are likely to spill into July, says Skymet report

ADITYA ANAND MUMBAI

The monsoon this year is expected to be 'below normal', which is 93% of the long period average of 887 mm of rainfall between June and September, according to the Kharif Estimate 2019, released by Skymet on Friday.

The report also indicated that soyabean and cotton production is likely to go up, as paddy cultivation is expected to go down this kharif season. "In terms of geographical risk, we expect east India along with a major portion of central India to be at a higher risk of being rain deficient, especially during the first half of the season," the report said. Skymet Weather Services,

a leading weather and agriculture risk monitoring company, said that the Pacific Ocean had become strongly warmer than average. "The model projections call for 80% chance of El Nino during March-May, dropping to 60% for June to August. This means, it is going to be a de- volving El Nino year, though retaining threshold value all through the season," it said.

According to the report, June is going to be sluggish, and deficit rains are likely to spill into July. Second half of the season would see better rainfall and August is expected to be a shade better than September. Both months would manage to see normal rains. Live storage of water in 91 reservoirs as per May

30 bulletin, is 114% of the same period last year. The Central Monitoring Commission keeps tab on the status of these reservoirs every week. Live storage available in these reservoirs is 31.65 BCM, which is 20% of the total live storage capacity of these reservoirs.

Deficient rains, it said, were expected over Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal along with central parts of the country predominantly Vidarbha, Marathwada, southern parts of Madhya Pradesh and some parts of Gujarat. "With below normal monsoons, the possibility of deficient and largely deficient rains is more than 40% in 66% districts of the country," the report said.

'Want to make Plant India a national movement'

Union Minister Prakash Javadekar says saplings will be planted till August 5

ALOK DESHPANDE MUMBAI

The Union Minister for Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Prakash Javadekar, on Friday said that the Central government aims to make Plant India initiative a national movement led by people, like the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

Positive response He was speaking after holding a meeting with Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and other State officials on environment and forest-related issues. Mr. Javadekar said, "We have received thousands of selfies from people posing with saplings. People have



Prakash Javadekar

participated in the initiative in large numbers and we are making efforts to ensure that more people become a part of it. Many States are also taking the lead in promoting this initiative."

Mr. Javadekar said the planting of saplings will continue till August 5 owing to

variability in the planting season. He said, "People are beginning to understand that unless we correct our lifestyle, it will affect our lives adversely. Given the amount of oxygen we need to inhale in a lifetime, each person needs to plant and grow at least 10 trees and ensure that they remain protected. This is the duty of every citizen. We want to inculcate that spirit in the people."

The Union Minister said that a majority of the pending issues, demands and projects of the State raised between 2004 and 2014 had been resolved in the last five years of the Modi government. He said that the Centre is taking quick action

to ensure that the environment is protected and development takes place.

Permission for projects He said the Centre had granted permissions for projects in the State such as the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj statue, Nhava Sheva bridge, Navi Mumbai airport, Mumbai Metro, Mumbai-Goa Expressway, coastal road and recycling plant in Malad. He also said that changes were made to the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification so that families living in those areas can avail of FSI regulations. He said, "I will take up this process with all States, and we will solve problems by taking policy decisions."

Attempt to murder case against Gujarat cop

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA VADODARA

A case of attempt to murder has been registered against a police sub-inspector in Vadodara for allegedly firing at a man during an altercation with the latter's father, an official said on Friday. The incident happened on June 3 in the city's Tarsali locality falling under Makaarpura police station limits when sub-inspector S.V. Chudasama, in civil dress, had a heated exchange with Manilal Prajapati who owns a pan stall in the area, the official said.

When Mr. Prajapati's son Simit tried to intervene and asked Mr. Chudasama to show his identity card, the PSI allegedly fired four rounds from his service revolver, the official said.

Simit received bullet injuries in his stomach and legs and was rushed to a nearby hospital while Mr. Chudasama, attached to Makaarpura police station, fled from the spot. The official said Simit's statement was recorded on June 4 and an offence was registered on Thursday. Mr. Chudasama is on the run.

Man found killed at Akola railway station

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA AKOLA

An unidentified man was found killed at Akola railway station, the Railway Police said on Friday.

The body of the man, who appeared to be aged between 30 and 35 years, was found on platform number 4 on Friday morning, the police said.

A person, who is said to be mentally challenged, has been arrested in connection with the incident, the police said. It appears that the victim, whose identity is yet to be established, was attacked with a sharp-edged weapon Thursday night, they said.

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**IN BRIEF**  
**SC allows Janardhana Reddy to visit Bellary**

**NEW DELHI**  
In a relief for former Karnataka Minister and mining baron Galli Janardhana Reddy, the Supreme Court on Friday allowed him to visit Bellary district in Karnataka to meet his ailing father-in-law. The Vacation Bench of the court, led by Justice Indira Banerjee, allowed him two weeks' time from June 8 to visit his father-in-law, who had suffered a stroke.

**Tirumala nets a record income of ₹89.02 crore**

**TIRUMALA**  
The sacred hill temple of Lord Venkateswara has registered a record income of ₹89.02 crore during the month of May, which is ₹2.67 crore higher when compared to the corresponding month last year. Addressing the media, TTD Executive Officer Anil Kumar Singhal on Friday said that the temple has been experiencing an unprecedented turnout in the pilgrim crowd during the current summer.

**I will be your voice in LS: Rahul**

Cong. chief thanks people of Kerala, promises to combat Modi's 'hatred with love'

**STAFF REPORTER MALAPPURAM**

Congress president Rahul Gandhi began a three-day visit on Friday to Wayanad, the constituency that elected him to the Lok Sabha with the biggest victory margin in Kerala's history (4.31 lakh votes) in the recent elections.

He assured the people that he would be Kerala's voice in Delhi.

Mr. Gandhi took out road shows at Kalikavu, Nilambur, Edavanna and Areekode, the towns in Malappuram district coming under the Assembly segments of Wandoor, Nilambur and Erand, which constitute the Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency, together with Kalpetta, Sulthan Bathery and Mananthavady in Wayanad district and Thiruvambady in Kozhikode district.

**Greets crowd**

Braving the rain, a large number of United Democratic Front (UDF) enthusiasts gathered at Kalikavu to cheer Mr. Gandhi. He made frequent stops to shake hands with the people. A large number of women were



**Tea break:** Congress president Rahul Gandhi taking a break at a tea shop in Chokkad town, Nilambur, on Friday. ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

among those who had turned out to greet Mr. Gandhi along the roads.

Addressing the crowd at Kalikavu, Mr. Gandhi assured them that he would take up Kerala's issues in Parliament. Thanking the voters of Wayanad for his overwhelming victory, Mr. Gandhi said he would be their voice in the Lok Sabha. His door would always be open to the people of Wayanad.

From Kalikavu, Mr. Gandhi's motorcade proceeded to Nilambur via Chokkad, a

place that the police advised him to avoid, fearing Maoist presence.

**'Defend the weak'**

Thousands of UDF supporters had gathered on both sides of the road at Nilambur. Addressing them, he said the Congress would combat hatred spread by Narendra Modi and his government through love and affection. He would defend the weak and those who were under attack in the Modi rule. On the way to Edavan-

na from Nilambur, Mr. Gandhi stopped at Vadapuram and Mampad to interact with the voters.

It was well past sunset when he reached Edavanna. The rain had disrupted his schedule, delaying him by more than an hour. In spite of the rain, people waited for hours to have a glimpse of the leader.

Mr. Gandhi ended his first day's show at Areekode.

**RAHUL REQUESTED TO TAKE REINS AGAIN: ▶ PAGE 10**

**One more person in Kerala tests negative for Nipah**

Areas with heavy density of bats to be marked

**State Health Minister meets Harsh Vardhan**

**STAFF REPORTER KOCHI**

One more person currently being treated at the isolation ward of the Government Medical College Hospital, Ernakulam, has tested negative for the Nipah virus. Six suspected cases had tested negative earlier, Health Minister K.K. Shylaja said in New Delhi on Friday.

However, all the seven persons admitted to the isolation ward will be monitored for the entire length of the incubation period of the virus.

Meanwhile, efforts to trace the source of Nipah virus continues, four days after a youngster tested positive.

An experts' team from the Pune-based National Institute of Virology has descended on the district to mark out places with high

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI**

Kerala Health Minister K.K. Shylaja met the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan in the city on Friday.

"We discussed the status and preparedness of the State for containment and management of Nipah virus and have assured the State

concentration of bats. The team comprises an entomologist and a field biologist. The Forest Department has identified three spots with heavy concentration of bats in Vadakkekara. The youngster who tested positive for Nipah hails from the area.

The condition of the 23-year-old continues to remain

government that we are reviewing the status regularly," said the Union Health Minister.

He added that teams of experts from the Health Ministry and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) are already stationed in Kerala and are supporting the State in investigations and management of the disease.

stable, despite intermittent bouts of fever. He had food and spoke to his mother.

**New isolation ward**

No fresh admissions for suspected Nipah have been reported in the district.

A new isolation ward has been set up at the Government Medical College Hospital, Ernakulam.

**A.P. BJP chief rules out special status for State**

Kanna Lakshminarayana cautions Jagan Mohan Reddy against following in footsteps of Naidu

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT TIRUPATI**

By ruling out the possibility of a rethink by the Central government on the demand for Special Category Status (SCS) to Andhra Pradesh, BJP State president Kanna Lakshminarayana has kicked up a fresh row. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy is determined to pursue the issue with the Central government during

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit.

"Former Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu committed a grave mistake by harping on the SCS, which the Centre termed 'a closed chapter', and paid for it in the form of his party's stunning defeat in the elections. If he follows the same path as his predecessor, Mr. Jagan will only be misleading the people again," Mr. Laksh-

minarayana said.

Addressing presspersons here on Friday, Mr. Lakshminarayana said Mr. Jagan would do well to remember that his efforts to secure the SCS would be a futile exercise because for the PM, who did a lot for the bifurcated State, giving SCS which is just a nomenclature is not a big issue.

At the same time, he (the CM) could make a represen-

tation to the PM for SCS. There was no need for the BJP to prevent him from doing that, as it was his right.

**Special package**

Mr. Lakshminarayana recalled that Mr. Modi had sanctioned a special financial package, which was more beneficial than the SCS. But Mr. Naidu virtually turned down the offer by not forming the special purpose

vehicle due to his compulsions.

He pointed out that the Central government gave ₹24,000 crore for rural development and sanctioned railway zone and many institutions of national importance after the BJP-TDP alliance broke. The Centre would continue to extend all possible support to the State government, the BJP State president said.

**Tight security for Modi's visit to Guruvayur**

Will offer thulabharam with lotus

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT THIRISSUR**

The police have set up fool-proof security arrangements for the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Guruvayur on Saturday.

The Prime Minister, who will reach the Sree Krishna College ground at 9.45 a.m., will visit the Sreekrishna temple at 10.10 a.m. He will be welcomed by Guruvayur Devaswom authorities with *poorna kumba*. Mr. Modi will offer *thulabharam* with lotus flowers. Around 111 kg

of flowers have been arranged for this. He will spend around one hour at the temple.

Mr. Modi will address the people at the Sree Krishna School ground, Guruvayur. Union Ministers Piyush Goyal and V. Muraleedharan will accompany him.

Around 1,500 police personnel, along with 100 women police personnel, shadow police, bomb squad and dog squad have been deployed for the security of the Prime Minister's visit.

**PM to visit Tirupati tomorrow**

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT TIRUPATI**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to visit Tirupati on Sunday. His trip is perceived as a thanksgiving one to the hill temple of Lord Venkateswara at Tirumala.

According to the programme schedule, Mr. Modi will fly from Colombo airport at 3 p.m. to reach Tirupati by 4.30 p.m., address about 5,000 party workers for 30 minutes at a 'Vijayotsava Sabha' in the vicinity of the airport.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mrs. Kuldeep Kaur, Mr. Gursharan Singh, Mr. Harmanjeet Singh, Mr. Parveen Kumar & Mrs. Poonam Arora who intend to purchase & further mortgage the Entire Ground floor & Second floor of Property No. C-67, in Block-C, at Rajouri Garden, New Delhi with our client Axis Bank Ltd against the financial assistance. Whereas, Mr. Pran Nath Kapoor acquired the above said entire property from Mr. Tirath Singh by way of Conveyance Deed dated 08.05.1959. Thereafter, Mr. Pran Nath Kapoor S/o Gobind Sahai had sold the Annex to his wife Mrs. Indra Devi which was affirmed by Judgment passed by Sub Judge Jammu on 20.11.1975 but no such registered document was executed with this regard. After the death of Late Sh. Pran Nath Kapoor & Indra Devi their sons namely Mr. Ravindra Kapoor and Mr. Arun Kapoor got their respective rights of the entire property by virtue of Will dated 11.09.2004, Codicil of Will dated 22.08.2009 and two separate Relinquishment Deeds both dated 11.09.2015. Further Mr. Arun Kapoor gifted 15% undivided share out of his share in the said property to his wife Mrs. Nandita Kapoor by way of Gift Deed dated 19.07.2018. Now Mr. Arun Kapoor and Mrs. Nandita Kapoor intend to sell the property in question to our borrowers. If any person(s) having objection regarding ownership or regarding mortgage of the said property is/are requested to intimate in writing to undersigned within 15 days from the date of issue of this notice at below address. In the event no information is received within 15 days from date hereof, our Client i.e. Axis Bank Ltd. will proceed with the mortgage process.  
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IN BRIEF



**Search area for missing An-32 expanded**

**GUWAHATI**  
The search area for IAF's An-32 transport aircraft that went missing over Arunachal Pradesh on June 3 has been expanded. The aircraft had 13 IAF personnel on board. "The P-8i of Indian Navy undertook a search mission from Arakkonam in Tamil Nadu on Friday morning while UAVs and sensors were engaged," a defence spokesperson said.

**INLD MLA Balwan Singh Daulatpuria joins BJP**

**CHANDIGARH**  
In a fresh setback to the Opposition Indian National Lok Dal in Haryana, its sitting MLA from Fatehabad constituency Balwan Singh Daulatpuria joined the BJP on Friday. Mr. Daulatpuria announced his decision to quit the INLD at a meeting of BJP workers in Fatehabad. He was welcomed by Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

**HC grants bail to actor Karan Oberoi in rape case**

**MUMBAI**  
The High Court on Friday granted bail to actor and singer Karan Oberoi, accused of raping his former girlfriend. Mr. Oberoi was arrested on May 5 after a 34-year-old woman alleged that he raped her on several occasions and also extorted money and gifts from her. He claimed that they were in a consensual relationship and after he broke off the relationship, she levelled allegations of rape. PTI

**50 shops in Chandigarh gutted; no loss of lives**

**CHANDIGARH**  
At least 50 temporary shops were gutted at a local market in Anandpur Sahib in the wee hours of Friday. There has been no report of any lives being lost. The fire broke out in the market near Gurdwara Takht Sri Kesgarh Sahib in which goods worth crores of rupees is being reportedly said to be lost. The cause of fire is yet to be ascertained.

# Don't know about Malegaon blasts, Pragya Singh tells court

BJP MP appears before NIA court after her plea for exemption was turned down

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI**

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP and main accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast, Pragya Singh Thakur, appeared before the National Investigation Agency (NIA) court on Friday and said she did not know about the blast.

Ms. Thakur arrived at 12.45 p.m. from Bhopal, after the court turned down her plea seeking exemption from appearance in court. Judge Vinod Padalkar asked her to take her place in the space demarcated for the accused, where Sudhakar Dwivedi and Sameer Kulkarni were seated. She sat on a red velvet cloth placed by her aides.

Lawyers requested permission to talk to Ms. Thakur but the judge turned it



**Facing trial:** Pragya Singh Thakur arriving at the NIA court in Mumbai on Friday. •PTI

down, and called her to the witness stand. The judge read out his order, which directed the accused to be present in court once a week, and asked Ms. Thakur if she wanted a chair to sit while deposing. She, however, said she would stand.

The judge then ques-

tioned her under Section 313 (IA) (the court can question the accused) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and asked in Hindi, "Do you know how many witnesses have been examined by prosecution? Has your lawyer told you?" To which she replied, "No, I don't know."

The judge then said, "One hundred and sixteen witnesses have been examined and it has been established that a blast took place. I am not asking who did it. Do you know a blast took place on 29th September, 2008?"

She said, "No, I don't know."

Post-lunch, the judge asked Ms Thakur again, "I am asking on humanitarian grounds, [do] you want to sit or stand?" to which Ms Thakur said she had a throat infection, which made it difficult for her to hear properly.

After the court proceedings were over, Ms. Thakur expressed displeasure over the chair, and said, "This is not the way to treat people after calling them to court...there is no proper place to sit or stand here."

# Centre silent on appointment of Justice A.A. Kureshi

Makes Justice R.S. Jha the acting Chief Justice of M.P.

**LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI**

The government on Friday appointed Justice Ravi Shanker Jha as the Acting Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court even as there was no word from the Centre on a May 10 Supreme Court Collegium recommendation to appoint Justice A.A. Kureshi as the Chief Justice of the High Court.

On May 10, the Collegium led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi recommended Justice Kureshi to the office of the Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh, saying he was the senior-most judge from the Gujarat High Court, presently functioning on transfer in the Bombay High Court.

**'Considered view'**

The Collegium had told the government in its resolution that Justice Kureshi, in its "considered view", was "suitable in all respects for being appointed as Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court" after the retirement of the incumbent Justice S.K. Seth.



However, it seems the file has not impressed the government. In a brief notification, the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, invoked Article 223 (appointment of Acting Chief Justice) to appoint Justice Jha.

The Centre reasons that Justice Jha is the "senior-most judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court". Justice Jha, the notification said, would take over as Acting Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court from June 10, when Justice Seth retires.

**Not first time**

It is not the first time Justice Kureshi's appointment has been embroiled in controversy.

When the office of Chief Justice to the Gujarat High Court fell vacant some months back due to the elevation of Justice Subhash Reddy to the Supreme Court, Justice Kureshi, as the then next senior-most judge in the Gujarat High Court, was expected to take over the office.

Instead, he was faced with an abrupt transfer to the Bombay High Court and Justice A.S. Dave, the senior most judge after Justice Kureshi, was appointed the Acting Chief Justice - all on the same day.

However, the government had then quickly changed track to issue a second notification appointing Justice Kureshi as Acting Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court until he took over office in the Bombay High Court.

The controversy had raised questions about the way Justice Kureshi was dealt with by the government, and whether this had anything to do with adverse orders passed by him against the ruling dispensation.

## Helping hand



**Personal touch:** Central Reserve Police Force personnel carrying a 13-year-old boy suffering from jaundice from Gumodi, a remote village in naxal-hit Sukma district of Chhattisgarh on Friday. The boy was carried for eight km to a camp in Kondasawali, where his condition has stabilised after treatment. •ANI

## Plea in SC to modify PG admissions order

'Original choices by students not valid'

**LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI**

An application was filed in the Supreme Court on Friday for a modification of its June 4 order restraining students from changing their original option/preference for seats in the postgraduate medical and dental courses in Maharashtra for the academic year 2019-2020.

The application sought the court to allow students to seek a fresh choice of seats, including seats reverted from the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) category to general category.

The application said seats should be allotted to already registered and qualified medical students during manual (physical) counselling, in accordance with merit, without insisting upon previous choice/options exercised by the applicants.

**'Invalid exercise'**

The application filed by Sagar Damodar Sarda said the original exercise of options by the applicants and other qualified students "cannot be termed a valid exercise in facts of the given case when the said exercise was itself restricted by operation of EWS quota, which is now not applicable for the current academic year."

It said the "provisional seat position of postgraduate courses in government/ government-aided/ BMC and central government medical colleges, published by the Government of Maharashtra, State Common Entrance Cell would further reveal that there were several seats, discipline wise - college wise which were earmarked for EWS students (only); before the said reservation scheme (for EWS) was directed not to be applicable for this academic year 2019-2020" by the apex court on May 30.

The application alleged that the authorities, even after the issuance of directions by the court, did not call for fresh choice filling, to enable students in order of merit to participate afresh in the recounselling process.

On June 4, the court directed the Maharashtra government to hold the last round of physical counselling for postgraduate medical and dental seats by June 14. The June 4 order followed an interim direction in May to the State to not implement the 10% economic quota for the admissions for the 2019-20 academic year.

## FCI plans to increase its storage space

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI**

The Food Corporation of India has commissioned a new roadmap to speed up silo construction to meet its target of 100 lakh tonnes of storage space by 2022.

With record harvests and high procurement over the last few years, the FCI is sitting on a reserve stock of foodgrains that is almost double the required level, straining capacity and forcing the use of cover and plinth storage which is not entirely weather-proof.

The previous government had constructed 6.75 lakh tonnes of storage capacity while work is ongoing for 22 lakh tonnes, said Food Minister Ram Vilas Paswan on Friday, adding that the reason for slow progress was due to the necessity of having 1.5 km rail sidings next to the silos. Engineering consultancy firm RITES Ltd had been asked to prepare a roadmap for a new silo model within the next 90 days, he said.

The FCI was in talks with its unions to streamline its labour force and bring all 40,000 workers under a uniform direct payment system, Mr. Paswan added.

## Exhume body of Assam minor girl, says NCPDR

Serious lapse of procedure by police

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
GUWAHATI**

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPDR) has recommended exhuming the body of a 12-year-old girl from Assam, who died under mysterious circumstances in the house of an Arunachal Pradesh MLA.

This was because the State police had the body buried in neighbouring Assam without an FIR and autopsy while MLA Techi Kaso's family had allegedly destroyed evidence that could have established the cause of the girl's death on May 20. Mr. Kaso represents the Janata Dal-United (JD-U) from the Itanagar Assembly constituency. The minor girl from Line No. 4 of the Dola-hat Tea Estate in north-eastern Assam's Lakhimpur district was reportedly found hanging in the house of law-maker Techi Kaso in Naharlagun town, about 15 km from Itanagar.

The police in Naharlagun has been asked to properly investigate and submit a report. "Since the body was buried without any post mortem, we have recommended exhuming it for knowing the cause of death," she added.

ASCPDR chairperson Sunita Changkakoti said the police claimed the 12-year-old girl committed suicide. "But her death does not seem so. The room where she died was dismantled, people in the MLA's house had brought her body down before the police arrived, and the dupatta with which she was said to have hanged herself was burnt," she said.

## Home Ministry warns NGOs

Many have changed office-bearers without informing it

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI**

The Home Ministry has warned Non Governmental Organisations, who have changed their office-bearers and key functionaries without informing the Ministry, with penal action, if they fail to do so within a month.

All NGOs and associations registered under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 2010, which makes them eligible to receive foreign funds and donations, have to submit online application for addition, deletion and change of details about office-bearers and key functionaries within one month.

As per norms, all associations, granted a certificate of registration under Section 11 and 12 of the FCRA, 2010 have reported details of their office-bearers and key functionaries while applying for registration.

**Call for updation**

"It is noticed that some associations/persons, having been registered under the

Act, have changed their office-bearers/key functionaries without approval from the MHA and without updating this data on a real time basis through the online application meant for change of these details...all such associations are hereby called upon to submit online changes failing which penal action shall be initiated under the appropriate provisions of the FCRA Act, 2010 and Rules, 2011," the order issued by the MHA said on Friday.

## Teltumbde gets protection from arrest till next month

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI**

The Bombay High Court on Friday extended protection from arrest for Anand Teltumbde in the Bhima-Koregaon violence case till July 1.

A single-judge Bench of Justice Revati Mohitedere was hearing a petition filed by Mr. Teltumbde seeking anticipatory bail in the case through senior counsel Mihir Desai.

On February 11, another

Bench had not only extended his protection from arrest till February 22, but also directed the Pune police to release him on ₹1 lakh personal bond if they arrest him.

On February 5, the Pune

police informed another Bench that they would not arrest him till February 12 midnight.

On February 1, a special court in Pune had quashed his pre-arrest bail plea.

## Private agencies to handle PR work for Railways

Board bats for more focus on social media, particularly on Facebook and Twitter

**S. VIJAY KUMAR  
CHENNAI**

In a major shift, the Railway Ministry has decided to hand over core public relations activities to private agencies with more focus on social media, particularly Facebook and Twitter.

The largest employer of the Union Government will now hire professionals to devise communication strategies to promote the image of the Railways and also in the management of passenger feedback and public grievances.

In the existing system, Public Relations in the railways is managed by a CPRO at the zonal level who is supported



The agencies will also pass on customers' grievances to officials. •RANJEET KUMAR

divisional level.

In a note to General Managers of zonal railways and production units, the Railway Board approved hiring of agencies to lend professional expertise to the Public Relations department in disseminating various initiatives of the railways, management of customer feedback/passenger grievances received through various social media platforms, sources in the Southern Railway said on Friday.

**Communication strategy**

One of the primary tasks of the PR agencies would be to formulate a result-oriented, comprehensive communica-

tion strategy on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Quora, YouTube, LinkedIn and Medium and other platforms that would be decided from time to time by the competent authority.

Based on the content provided by the respective Chief Public Relations Officers, the private agencies would create promotional material such as creative crisp texts, images, GIFs, infographics and animations etc. in accordance with the social media guidelines.

The sources said the private agencies chosen by the Zonal Railways through open bidding process would analyse newspapers/maga-

zines, websites and television channels as regards news relating to the Railways.

A dedicated team of qualified analysts would be deployed to work in back-end offices to assist CPROs in identifying issues/themes and "identifying influencers who are active in media." The team would comprise a team leader, social media manager, content analyst, content writers, video editors among others.

The outsourced work would include online storage and management of data and content and make them available to railway officials when required.

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## Itinerary symbolism

The second Modi government sends a powerful 'neighbourhood first' message

In a reaffirmation of New Delhi's 'Neighbourhood First' policy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's first visit abroad is to the Maldives and Sri Lanka, while S. Jaishankar wraps up his first visit abroad as Foreign Minister to Bhutan. Leaders of several neighbouring countries were invited to Mr. Modi's swearing-in ceremony. This is the first state visit by Mr. Modi to Male, which he had visited briefly for the swearing-in of President Ibu Solih in November 2018. A series of agreements are expected during the visits, including the implementation of an \$800 million Line of Credit to the Maldives. The projects include a cricket stadium, water purification and sewerage systems, as well as a Coastal Surveillance Radar System and a Composite Training Centre for the Maldives National Defence Force. This follows the Indian practice of fulfilling the needs of neighbouring countries that they themselves identify, much as it has done in Afghanistan. The Prime Minister's visit to the Maldives aims to send a three-pronged message: to continue high-level contacts between close neighbours, assist as development partners, and strengthen people-to-people ties. For Sri Lanka, Mr. Modi's message is one of solidarity in the aftermath of the Easter Sunday terror attacks and the communal violence that followed, as well as a commitment to continue bilateral cooperation on joint development projects agreed to in 2017. He will be the first international leader to visit Colombo since the attacks, and his visit sends a powerful message as Sri Lanka tries to recover from the trauma.

The atmospherics today are in contrast to the comparatively trickier relationship with the previous governments in Male and Colombo during Mr. Modi's first tenure. In 2015, Mr. Modi had cancelled a visit to Male at the last minute following concerns over then-President Abdulla Yameen's crackdown on Opposition parties. Similar misgivings had cropped up regarding former Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa's regime. China's inroads into the region had formed a common thread straining ties with both countries. India protested when the Yameen government signed a free trade agreement with Beijing, and granted China land for development. It made its displeasure clear over the many infrastructure projects Mr. Rajapaksa granted to Chinese companies under heavy Chinese loans. Deeper concerns arose from the Chinese naval presence in both Male and Colombo. Now, the situation has turned. Governments in both countries have changed. Besides a charm offensive, India has chosen to mute its opposition to their continued cooperation with China on the Belt and Road Initiative. It also comes from a realisation in Delhi that at a time when factors such as the U.S.-China trade tussles and tensions in West Asia pose uncertainties, strong neighbourhood ties can provide much comfort.

## Unconscionable switch

The ease with which 12 Congress MLAs have defected to the TRS raises troubling questions

Telangana Assembly Speaker Pocharam Srinivas Reddy's decision to endorse the merger of a 12-member group of legislators from the Congress with the ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi may be technically justified under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution. They constitute the requisite two-thirds of the 18-member Congress Legislature Party. But this orchestrated decimation of the Opposition in the 120-member legislature does not bode well. With this, the TRS's strength has gone up to 103. It had won 88 seats in the 2018 elections, but three MLAs – an Independent and one each from the Telugu Desam Party and the All India Forward Bloc – defected to its fold recently. These actions seem aimed to reduce the Opposition's ability to act as a check. Defections are not uncommon despite the stringent conditions of the anti-defection law. But coming so soon after the Assembly elections, and devoid of a point of principle, they raise disturbing questions about the ideological and programmatic cohesiveness of the Congress. MLAs need not be tied to party *satraps* and should assert their individuality in law-making – but it is dishonesty to switch sides after being elected on a party ticket when the only plausible objective is to grab the loaves of power. That there is no ideological distinctiveness to political representation in States such as Telangana has made it possible for defections to happen rampantly. In an ideology-lite polity, the MLAs seem to see no benefit in meaningfully representing their constituents, and find it rewarding to align with the ruling party for the purposes of patronage.

The anti-defection law, that calls for disqualification unless defecting legislators are part of a group that constitutes at least two-thirds of the legislative strength of a party and that merges with another party, was enacted to prevent such machinations. However, defectors have found ways to work around the law to avoid disqualification. Dramatic shifts in allegiances by elected MLAs have been a concern in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, among other States. In many cases, even if the two-thirds rule has been flouted, the authority given to the Speaker, who is invariably from the ruling dispensation, has enabled dubious calls. This decision-making structure has also allowed blatant defections to be ignored, as seen in Goa and Manipur, among other States. In such cases, the Speaker has acted less as a constitutional authority and more as a partisan party loyalist. It is time to reconsider the anti-defection law's procedural implementation and to vest the power on decisions over mergers of groups and disqualifications of legislators with an institution such as the Election Commission. This could well bring about a more strict and objective implementation of the anti-defection law.

# The great Indian celebration

The country's politics has changed, and new analytical tools are required to understand it



SHIV VISVANATHAN

The American sociologist, C. Wright Mills, known for classic works like *The Power Elite*, dubbed the years of the Dwight D. Eisenhower presidency (1953-61) as the great celebration. The United States was celebrating its sense of dominance even as the Cold War and the McCarthy era were gnawing its entrails. Something of the hypocrisy and the complacency of the time haunts the India of today. We seem to belong to the future, yet the more outdated we become as a country. The Narendra Modi government seems to celebrate a series of ironic events as a great victory. The very scale of its electoral score and the punitiveness of the Opposition seem to have unhinged it.

### Lost pluralism

We celebrate democracy at the very moment that our majoritarianism has destroyed our sense of pluralism. The dissenting, the marginal, the minority seem to have no place in the juggernaut rolling before us.

We are hailing a nation state where ideas march in uniform, where the jingoism of the masses is labelled as patriotism.

We hail an alliance between corporate power and the nation state dubbed as development without realising that such a theory of growth has no ethical space for the idea of the Anthropocene. We

have confined the challenge of climate change to the dustbin of dissent, indifferent to the vulnerability of our tribals or of our coastlines. Our piety as a Third World nation state has emptied our ethics as a civilisation. The emptiness of our Swadeshim has destroyed the creativity of our Swaraj, our ability to see locality and planet as one whole.

We pretend that we are in pursuit of a knowledge economy, when our sense of knowledge has lost meaning as a culture and become totally instrumental. At the very moment we are being out-thought and outfought by the West and by China, we claim a priority for our ancient civilisation as a knowledge economy. We have a regime which is committed to an ancient past, but is clueless about the problems it confronts in the future.

Yet the drum beat of this election has made us think that India has arrived on the world stage. It is a piece of news our intellectuals are afraid to challenge lest they be seen as anti-national. The question is, how do we challenge such a situation when we celebrate the very things that are driving us to the world of mediocrity?

The general tom-tomming that the Congress has been put in its place, that liberalism is dead, that Marxism is as stale as yesterday's newspaper makes one feel that India was suffering from a deep sense of inferiority. We saw ourselves as victims of history. Where else would politicians spend time rewriting the Battle of Haldighati as if a victory then was more critical than any battle in the future. India today feels as if it has won a victory against the Nehruvian mo-



ANUJ ARORA

del that had haunted it. We feel that we have exorcised ourselves and this victory is the psychological beginning to a new India. It is this psychological state that we need to understand. We seem to think that we have outgrown our past illusions. The electoral score is literally presented as a catharsis, a purging of the past where a renaissance India emerges ready for a global future. An India tired of being a failure.

### Reading the popular mind

We face the irony not that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bharatiya Janata Party president Amit Shah were successful psephologists, but that they were such brilliant readers of the contemporary Indian mind. For all our talk of our great nationalism movements, our sense of civilisation, Mr. Modi realised the sense of punitiveness that haunted our minds. The Congress of Sardar Patel, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi was too arrogant to think of such a state. It could have thought of the poverty of the peasant, but not the poverty of philosophy, the little mindsets that haunted us. It is true we were aspirational, yet our sense of being aspirational hid our self doubts.

This election has created a new mindset, whereby we look confi-

dent having acquired the feathers, the plumage of those who conquered us. Before one reacts in ire, remember no regime has been more colonial than the present. It is as if the whole country was waiting for a few certificates from the advanced nations. India has dressed itself in the plumage of nationalism, development and science, pretending that this millenarian arrival was India's first step to the future. In an ironic way India became Modi and Modi became India. We have transformed ourselves into a mimic nation.

Let us face it. The ideas of our elite, our liberals, our Marxists, our celebrations of the plural and civilisational had no sense of those who felt left out. The latter felt they had not joined history, that the bandwagon of the nation state, development had taken them nowhere. Mr. Modi realised the sense of loss and resentment, the need for recognition. It was a cultural envy, a bit like his attempt to take the place next to Gandhi in the KVIC (Khadi and Village Industries Commission) calendar. This sense of being left out haunted us as a nation. Mr. Modi harnessed this envy, found the right epidemic of hate and legitimised it. The Other had to be recreated and defeated, and 2002 became the myth for that inauguration. Riot or mob lynching became a moment of history. Every rioter felt he was conquering history. Violence became the rite of passage by which we recovered our lost sense of masculinity.

But recovering masculinity is not enough. It needs a framework of legitimisation and communalism expanded into patriotism. Majoritarianism became the new nation-

alism. The electoral analyses presented are antisepic, almost rituals of avoiding analysis. There is a banal sociology which either shows that political parties did not matter or a hosanna to leadership. It fails to confront the collective psyche or the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) ability to convert folk psychology into mass psychology. Attempts to read it like a chartered accountant reading election counts is irrelevant. It was like watching an epidemic or an avalanche. The RSS had a deeper sense of the resentment that was local to India, and it sublimated this violence to the Other with the right categories such as nation, security and patriotism. It understood the power of the irrational and harnessed it. Mr. Shah's sociology of the nakkad had more creative power than the official sociology textbooks. As defeated activists and scholars, we can watch it voyeuristically, sense an India we need to understand.

### There is space

Now Mr. Modi is Lutyens' Delhi, and we need to understand the consequence of it. We need a different set of insights to critique him. The challenge of the future will lie in our ability to invent a different democracy, and not get caught in the banality of policy critique or a critique of choices, where law and order displaces democratic inventiveness. Our idea of India is still hospitable to impossible possibilities.

Shiv Visvanathan is an academic associated with the Compost Heap, a group in pursuit of alternative ideas and imagination

# The spirit of 1989, from Tiananmen to Prague

It is a reminder that where non-violence is practised, democracy is honoured



RAMIN JAHANBEGLOO

The recent commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the violent suppression of China's Tiananmen Square protests is a good occasion to look back on the year 1989 and the non-violent movements for democracy which changed our world. It is a fact that the non-violent movements in Central and Eastern Europe in 1989 ended the confrontation between East and West and strengthened the possibility of a "new international order" based on the extension of democracy around the globe. As a result of the victory of non-violent campaigns in Poland (with the Solidarity movement) and in Czechoslovakia (with the Velvet Revolution), the technique of non-violent transformation of authoritarian and semi-totalitarian regimes into liberal democracies turned into a global cross-cultural phenomenon.

In other words, the self-empowerment strategies of non-violent civic actors of 1989 had a great im-

pact on those around the globe who believed in a genuine process of democratisation. Let us not forget that the past 30 years have witnessed an unprecedented flowering of non-violent experiences. In many areas of the world, such as Latin America, North Africa and West Asia, where armed struggle was once seen as the only path to freedom, non-violent campaigns are now considered institutionalised methods of struggle for democratic invention and democratic governance.

### Good governance

One of the important tasks that was set by the non-violent movements of 1989 was the provision of "good governance". For these movements and their leaders like Czechoslovakia's Vaclav Havel, the real test of democracy was not only in the peaceful process of transition, but also in the non-violent consolidation of democratic institutions. For the advocates of non-violence in 1989, democracy was not just "an institutional arrangement for organising the political society" but a new attitude and approach towards the problem of power. For example, from the point of view of a 1989 leader such as Havel, the concept of power should go hand in hand with res-



REUTERS

ponsibility. As he pointed out, "Politics is that area of human endeavour that places greater stress on moral sensitivity, on the ability to reflect critically on oneself, on genuine responsibility, on taste and tact, on the capacity to empathise with others, on a sense of moderation, on humility."

In a Gandhian manner, the spirit of 1989 affirmed that the challenges and difficulties of democratic governance needed to be confronted through self-rule, self-control and the soul force. Undoubtedly, for all the non-violent actors of 1989, the twin practices of self-discipline and empathetic service seemed necessary in order to control an unjust and inappropriate power.

This is actually what was suggested by the student-led democracy movement in China. For the

Chinese students, the process of democratisation was a way to change the Communist power over society into a power from within it. As another leader of the 1989 movements, Adam Michnik, declares, "The real struggle for us is for the citizen to cease to be the property of the state."

Truly, civic actors and freedom animators such as Adam Michnik and Vaclav Havel did not learn to love democracy and non-violence blindfolded and with their heads lowered. They believed that democracy can be practised only when we can look at it clearly and critically. Accordingly, it was in their minds that the Berlin Wall began to crumble. As the spirit of 1989 dawned in Beijing, the Polish people, and the Czechs, Slovaks, Romanians, Hungarians, Lithuanians, Estonians, Ukrainians and Russians came to understand that the empowerment of civil society and the collective ability to rule democratically were the essential constituents of non-violent transition to democracy.

Ironically, on the same day (June 4, 1989) that the Polish Communists were defeated for the first time in elections in a Communist state, the Chinese pro-democracy movement was crushed by the tanks in Tiananmen Square. Para-

doxically, both Communist China and post-Communist Poland turned to market economy and a wild rush for wealth. But the lesson of 1989 remained intact and more relevant than ever.

### It's still afloat

As a matter of fact, it took shape once again in the spirit of young Egyptians and Tunisians who shook Arab history though the tactics of non-violent resistance. Certainly, the spirit of 1989 was non-violence in the making. And today, we can find the same spirit of 1989, what we can call a Gandhian moment of history, in Algeria, Sudan, Iran, Indonesia, the U.S. and many other countries around the globe. It shows that the dream of 1989 which accompanied the Chinese students of Tiananmen, the workers of Poland and the civic actors of Prague is not over. It shows that where non-violence is practised, democracy is honoured. Moreover, the spirit of 1989, which took shape in the year of all freedoms, is a reminder that democracy is a system based on trust in human action and the fact that the impossible could become possible.

Ramin Jahanbegloo is Director, Mahatma Gandhi Centre for Peace, Jindal Global University, Sonapat

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

### The language narrative

The natural bonding one has with the mother tongue, and the conditions warranting learning of a language other than one's mother tongue have been juxtaposed with the attempt to impose the three-language formula by the overzealous BJP (Editorial page, "Language, the opening move", June 7). Perhaps the party thought it had successfully fired its first salvo at the States down south. That the BJP has touched a raw nerve has been proved beyond doubt by the enormity of the opposition to the imposition of Hindi, in Tamil Nadu especially. Moves like these will only further widen the divide between the party and the people of Tamil Nadu who have already rejected the illusions of nationalism and Hindutva.

G.B. SIVANANDAM, Coimbatore

■ If only 30% of India's population speaks Hindi, it is absolutely clear what it is as far as the remainder is concerned. It is the English

language which connects and unites non-Hindi speaking States. At this juncture, the importance of English cannot be ignored. This is an issue that we cannot gloss over especially when the States were formed on the basis of language. The Central government should stop unpleasant surprises such as the draft National Education Policy.

ANTONY C.J., Purnanattukara, Muthuvaram, Kerala

■ The article reminded me of an incident, in 1966, when I had travelled to Chennai, to take part in the All-India National School Games, as the captain of my State TT team (Uttar Pradesh). As soon as the train pulled into Madras Central, the bogies were set upon by anti-Hindi agitators. As a child of 14 years, I was left traumatised. The team manager was able to gather his wits and rush us out to a place near the YMCA. Next day, when travelling in a bus, we were intercepted, asked to get down and caned heavily for no fault of ours. The attackers could not understand our language,

Hindi, nor could we theirs – Tamil. We were in confinement for the rest of the night. I could communicate just a bit in English and gathered that we were being punished because we had been heard talking in Hindi. We were released the next day when we told the police that we had come to participate in the national games that morning to be inaugurated by the leader M. Bakthavatsalam. I feel it should be left to a person to learn Hindi. English is a must as the major language in every State.

AHMAD RAIS SIDDIQI, New Delhi

### Rebooting the Congress

Some of the regional parties are doing a great disservice to the nation by trying to obliterate the Indian National Congress. Unfortunately, the entire political and social space in this country is being overtaken by religion, which is difficult to reverse. The BJP appears to have become a beneficiary of this. It is also unfortunate that the middle class in India, which greatly benefited from the leftist

policies of the Congress party and its liberalisation and globalisation policies since the 1990s, is deserting it and heading for the BJP. The nation has a stake in the revamping of the Congress party as a strong alternative to the BJP in the interests of Indian democracy (OpEd page, "Parley", "Is this the end of the road for the Congress party?", June 7).

P. PERRAJU SARMA, Visakhapatnam

■ The Congress can ill afford to be headed by a sulking president at a time when the entire organisational structure is crumbling rapidly. That its leadership could not prevent as many as 12 of its 18 MLAs in Telangana from switching over to the ruling TRS betrays the pathetic state of its leadership. The fissures between the Rajasthan Chief Minister and the State party president too reflect poorly on the leadership's ability to manage internal dissent. Infighting in Karnataka too has shown the party in a bad light. At the same time, this is the opportune moment for a change in leadership

starting from the top. S.K. CHOUDHURY, Bengaluru

### M.S. Dhoni's gloves

Can we keep politics out of sport and sports bodies? The BCCI is already a victim of external action and now to inject non-existent and unwarranted emotion into the matter of an Army insignia is unnecessary ("Sport" page, "Dhoni's tribute draws ICC's censure", June 7). The rest of us are as patriotic as the persons breathing fire and venom but following the rules in this case does nothing to affect our dignity. The general election is over and done with. Politicians play games but that is neither sport nor sporting.

T.C. NARAYAN, Bengaluru

■ Mahendra Singh Dhoni being a part of an international cricket team is under the rules and regulations of the International Cricket Council and is bound to follow those rules. As long as one works for an employer or an organisation, one is bound to

follow its rules and regulations and follow the policies laid down. No one can raise any objection. In the same manner, Dhoni has to obey ICC rules.

THOMAS KOSHY, Chennai

■ The familiar idiom is "wearing your patriotism on your sleeve", which M.S. Dhoni seems to have taken to heart. This is not to undervalue his boundless love for the country and the services in any manner. The furore in India over the issue is hardly surprising as it is being made out to be an emotional issue at a time when nationalist sentiment is running high. Dhoni is on the playing field in his capacity as an international cricket player. An internationalist is supposed to promote internationalism. It should not be forgotten that we are an organic part of the international community and need to act for the permeation of a spirit of goodwill. G. DAVID MILTON, Maruthancode, Tamil Nadu

MORE LETTERS ONLINE: www.hindu.com/opinion/letters/



It is the last Friday of Ramzan and lying on a blue rexine bed that is standard in private nursing homes, with an intravenous tube (IV) and a catheter attached to him, Mohammad Qasim, 29, has the anguished look of a man who is weary of carrying the burden of his name. As his cousins rush out of the nursing home to offer Alvida Juma (jumu'atul vida) namaz, tears course down Qasim's cheeks. He says, "I cannot even get up to offer my prayers, and this is more painful than the bullet lodged inside me."

Three days after the spectacular verdict of the 2019 general election that gave Prime Minister Narendra Modi a second term, Mohammad Qasim was shot at for being a Muslim in Kumbhi village. It falls under the jurisdiction of Cheria-Bariyarpur police station in Begusarai district, Bihar.

Looking back, it would appear that the atmosphere had already been vitiated by politicians in the run-up to the general election. Hindutva poster boy and Union Minister Giriraj Singh won the Begusarai Lok Sabha seat by defeating CPI candidate Kanhaiya Kumar, a former president of the Jawaharlal Nehru University student union; Rashtriya Janata Dal candidate Tanvir Hussain came a distant third. Campaigning for the polls, Singh repeatedly hit the headlines with controversial statements. "My ancestors died and were cremated... but you need a yard of land even after you die. If you say you cannot chant Vande Mataram, this nation will never forget you," he had said in the course of an election rally. He had also demanded the Election Commission of India impose a ban on the use of green flags. This was not the first time Singh had courted controversy in his attempts to create a wedge between religious communities.

#### String of violence

The past five years of the Narendra Modi government have seen a spate of lynchings across north India. A potent cocktail of religion, the issue of gau rakshak and intolerance towards other faiths appears to be fuelling the violence. Almost every act is caught on camera and quickly disseminated on social media which amplifies it. Politicians from the ruling dispensation have kept their silence. Just a few days ago one such gruesome act was captured on camera where, in Uttar Pradesh, a group of men are seen beating daily wage labourers for eating meat.

Qasim is a stout man who walks with a pronounced limp. Along with other members of his community, he weaves quilts for a living during the winter and supplements his income by doing odd jobs in the summer. He says, "My younger brother suggested that I sell detergent door-to-door and I agreed. I had to support my family, after all." Borrowing money from friends and relatives, Qasim bought a moped for ₹25,000 and started selling detergent. An additional ₹800 was spent on getting a microphone fitted to the moped. The microphone blared promotional jingles exhorting people to purchase Qasim's 3 kg detergent powder for just ₹100. On a normal day, Qasim's earnings touched ₹300.

#### Selling detergents for a lark

May 26 was just another usual day with much of the celebrations that followed the verdict of the general election having quietened down. Qasim had left home early to escape the heat and hoping to get some business done, persuading housewives to buy his detergent before they shut their doors for noon. May is a brutal summer month with most people preferring to stay indoors.

Qasim reached Kumbhi village, 10 km from his home. He recounts, "I had just parked my moped outside a paan shop, when suddenly a man [later identified as Rajiv Yadav] ordered me to switch off the mike. I turned it off immediately. He asked my name and upon hearing it, told me to go to Pakistan. 'You should be in Pakistan or...,' and he looked up at the sky. In a split second, he whipped out his katta (country revolver) and fired at me."

As Qasim slumped forward, a number of bystanders stood by and watched. None came forward to his aid. Qasim was barely conscious to realise that he was losing blood. The bullet had hit him on the left shoulder and, as doctors would later find out, it had not exited. After what seemed like hours, a woman came forward to dress his wound with a cloth. Someone else came forward with a towel and took him to the village sarpanch's house. The sarpanch, Raja Ram Sahni, offered to take Qasim to the local police.

By this time, news of the shooting had spread like wildfire in the neighbouring villages. Qasim's family members decided to rush him to the government hospital in Begusarai town some 30 km away from Khumbi, only to be told by the doctors to admit him in the State capital, Patna. Says Qasim's cousin, Mohd Mohd Mithun Alam, "It was at that time that some people had come to the government hospital in Begusarai to record Qasim's statement." His younger brother Mohd Javed, who is also physically challenged, adds, "We thought he could die of bleeding, so we requested the doctor to refer him to a local doctor in town. He then referred Qasim to a private nursing home."

The police visited the nursing home at 2 p.m. to record the statement. Says



**Ignition point:** "A deadly cocktail of religion, the issue of gau rakshak, and intolerance towards other faiths appear to be fuelling the spate of violence across north India." Mohammad Qasim's wife, Rehana Bibi, with their three children at their home at Khanjahanpur village. ■RANJEET KUMAR

# A thread of fear and hate

Street thugs have taken advantage of the post-election triumphalism to stage attacks on minorities in parts of north India. **Amarnath Tewary and Ashok Kumar** tell the stories of two victims



Qasim, "I apprised the bara babu (in-charge of police station) of all the details of the incident telling him categorically that I was shot at for being a Muslim, but the FIR said I was shot at due to some scuffle." He asks, "How could I have a scuffle with the accused whom I was not acquainted with? I put my thumb impression on the FIR without knowing what was written in it." However, at one place in the FIR (no: 77/19 dated May 26), Qasim's statement that he was shot at for being a Muslim does find a mention. Following the registration of the FIR, a case against the accused, Rajiv Yadav, was lodged under Sections 341 (punishment for wrongful restraint), 342 (punishment for wrongful confinement) and 307 (attempt to murder) of the Indian Penal Code and Section 27 of the Arms Act (punishment for using arms).

The accused was said to have been drunk at the time of the incident – Bihar is a dry State. He was arrested on May 30 and sent to jail. Says Niraj Kumar Singh, in-charge of Cheria-Bariyarpur police station: "He is a local criminal and has also been involved in illegal liquor brewing and selling... he is accused in four other cases as well."

However, the Begusarai Superintendent of Police, Awkash Kumar, expressed ignorance about Qasim's claim that he was shot at for being a Muslim. He said, "I do not know why he says so... we'll investigate this but our investigations show that he was shot following a scuffle over the purchase of his detergent."

But the shooting incident became prime time news and was amplified by social media. Kanhaiya Kumar tweeted, "In Begusarai, a Muslim hawk was shot at saying he should go to Pakistan. In order to promote such crimes, all such leaders are guilty who day and night spread hatred for political virtues. We're not at peace until the perpetrators are punished."

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen leader Asaduddin Owaisi too tweeted, "Qasim almost lost his life for literally just saying his name. But sure, I am 'fear mongering'. Where does Rajiv's brazenness come from? BJP's leadership has constantly demonised us and associated us with Pakistan. We're not human in their eyes, we're target practice."

Giriraj Singh too did not take long to respond. He told a news channel: "Owaisi has a habit of sowing hatred.

The land of Begusarai is peaceful. I urge Owaisi to let the people of Begusarai continue to live in peace. This is Modi's (PM Narendra Modi) raj and here, only peace will prevail." But local Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Imtiyaz Ali, State Communist party leader Arun Mishra and social activist Pushpraj, who visited Qasim in hospital, admitted that "after the Lok Sabha poll, the atmosphere of Begusarai has communally become toxic and people like Rajiv Yadav have started taking advantage of it".

Meanwhile, the doctor treating Qasim says he is "out of danger now" but the bullet is still embedded in his left shoulder. Says Dr. Ashok Kumar, "We'll review his condition after two to three days and take a decision on whether to go for an operation to take out the bullet or to leave it there... it causes no danger if it remains there." Qasim's family has spent ₹1.15 lakh on his treatment. Says Qasim's younger brother, "Ornaments of our wives have been mortgaged and we've also taken a loan from people... villagers and relatives have also donated nearly ₹10,000 but we're in deep debt."

In the distance, Qasim's new moped stands piled with detergent packets waiting to be sold. After the incident, most of the villagers in Khanjahanpur, to which Qasim belongs, have stopped hawking their goods for a living. The village has a substantial Muslim population engaged in petty trade, which appears to have taken a hit.

#### Another city, another beating

For a few weeks in the run-up to Eid-ul-Fitr every year, Mohammad Murtaza would hire a couple of tailors on daily wages to handle the increased load of work. Working in the narrow confines of a shop which is 10 ft by 5 ft, Murtaza, along with three other tailors, toiled away, furiously pedalling their sewing machines. All of them slept in the shop, which is an illegal unit operating from the basement of a house in the Jacobpura area of Gurugram. Shops such as these are common in this area.

Murtaza had migrated to the Millennium City in 1996, then a sleepy, dusty town on the outskirts of Delhi, in search of a livelihood. He worked with many well-known tailors in the city for over two decades before he could set up his own shop three years ago.

He had called his son Amir, who worked as a mason in Bengaluru, to assist him. Most often, it was the bigger tailors who outsourced their work to him. This year Murtaza called his distant cousin, Mohammad Barkat Alam, 25, from Bihar's Begusarai district to learn the tricks of the trade. He thought the man would also be an extra hand in the festive season.

Looking back at the incident of May 25, Murtaza, who looks much older than his 45 years, with his grey dishevelled hair and stubble – is deeply perturbed by the turn of events over the past few days. Says Murtaza, referring to



**Be it the protests against meat shops, mostly run by the Muslims, the offering of Namaz in open spaces or the attack on a Muslim family in Bhonds recently, the intolerance towards Muslims seems to be on the rise in Gurugram.**

HAZI SHAHZAD KHAN, Chairman, Muslim Ekta Manch

Alam, "It has not even been a month and he has already invited so much trouble for himself and all of us. The police and the media have all got involved. I had called him to teach tailoring for a better living, but will now send him back after Eid. That too will not be easy as he is now involved in a legal tangle."

This is what had happened. New to the city, Alam was returning to the shop from the local Jama Masjid, about 100 m away, on May 25 around 10 p.m. through a narrow alley when a few young men on a motorcycle and on foot allegedly accosted him and told him to remove his skull cap. They told him that he was not allowed to wear the skull cap in this area. When Alam protested, one of them slapped him and hit him on the head, displacing the cap. An altercation



Mohammad Qasim being treated at a private nursing home, in Begusarai. His mother, Aklima Bibi, (green saree) and grandmother, Gandoura Bibi, look after him. ■RANJEET KUMAR

broke out. Though there is no evidence to confirm or deny it, Alam claimed that his tormentor asked him to chant "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "Jai Shree Ram", and threatened to feed him pork if he didn't obey his command.

Recalls Alam, "It was not too late for a summer night and there were many people around. Some safai karamcharis were also working nearby. But no one intervened. They just laughed. The man punched me and hit me with a stick lying on the road. I tried to push him back and run but he held on to my kurta and tore it. I just started weeping. The men walked away."

Alam is yet to tell his mother about the incident and is not sure how she will take it.

Murtaza, however, feels that things would not have come to such a pass had Alam exhibited a little restraint. "He is young blood and the man was drunk. The man said something and he reacted. Had Alam acquiesced to what the man wanted him to do, there would have been no trouble. He had only threatened to feed him pork, and not actually done so. I have encountered such situations many times, but the matter never reached the police station," he argues.

#### Millennial city no more

Murtaza, though, concedes that a lot has changed in and around the locality over the past couple of years. A thriving meat market that was a stone's throw from his shop and had been running for decades shut down two years ago following protests by Hindus. It all started some years ago with protests during Navratri by some Hindu outfits and the few shops were forced to down their shutters permanently. Says Murtaza, "The Hindus objected to the presence of shops close to the temple, though the shops and the temple had co-existed for decades." He rues how he has to walk a longer distance now to buy meat from the Jama Masjid market. In fact, the meat shops and dhabas in the Jama Masjid market too were forced to shut down during Navratri in October last for the first time but were reopened a day later after the police intervened, he recounts.

Alam grumbles how despite being a victim, he has been at the receiving end of the law agencies and the media. He breaks down on a couple of occasions in dejection. On fast for around 20 days and beaten up, Alam had to sit in the police station till the early hours of Sunday after the attack while the police completed the legal formalities. He was called to the station the following day to identify the culprits, though none was arrested. Alam says he kept sitting in the station for four hours and was let off only after a community leader intervened.

He is saddened by the narrative now being falsely built by the police and the media to discredit him. A host of reports appeared in a section of media over the past few days, with reference to the

closed-circuit television footage of the incident, and about some insignificant details of the attack. The reports claimed that his skull cap was just touched by the accused and did not fall to the ground and that he was assaulted by one and not two persons. Some reports also claimed that his "kurta" was not torn, though a scuffle is evident in the footage. The police also said Alam could have been tutored to make a false statement with regard to the chants of "Jai Shree Ram" and "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" when there was still no evidence to support it.

The chairman of the Muslim Ekta Manch, Hazi Shahzad Khan, says while the incident has been dissected to disseminate insignificant details, no one seems to be talking about the moot point – that a young man belonging to a minority community has been targeted for his religious identity and prevented from practising his religion with freedom, as guaranteed in the Constitution. Khan says this is not the first time this has happened and that there have been a series of incidents in Gurugram over the past three years or so creating fear in the minds of the minorities.

He says, "Be it the protests against meat shops, mostly run by the Muslims, the offering of Namaz in open spaces, the cutting off of a Muslim man's beard or the attack on a Muslim family in Bhonds recently, the intolerance towards Muslims seems to be on the rise in Gurugram."

Independent film-maker Rahul Roy, who is a part of the civil society group, Nagrik Ekta Manch, says the emergence of Hindutva vigilante groups in Gurugram is linked to the creation of a new political voice and the building of a constituency of support around issues which are both emotive and offered possibilities of breaking through caste/clan social divisions. For a new set of political actors to break this stranglehold of old networks and claim leadership positions required the setting up of new political projects. Cow protection and anti-Muslim hate amplification are time-tested ingredients that have for long ensured very high success rates in mobilising people.

Says Roy, "The administration has completely failed to address the genuine problems of Muslim and Christian residents when it comes to issues such as places of worship and burial grounds. The campaign by the vigilante groups to stop the Friday Namaz in public spaces was partially successful and the administration provided legitimacy to these groups and their leadership by setting up parallel negotiations with the Muslim community and the vigilante groups."

On his part, Murtaza says his family back in Begusarai have been staunch supporters of the Bharatiya Janata Party and had been voting for the party. He consoles himself that his nephew returned home to tell his story. Alive.



FROM PAGE ONE

## Bail for war veteran who was declared foreigner

The retired soldier was taken to Goalpara Central Jail, one of the six prisons that serve as detention centres for declared foreigners. There are more than 1,000 such foreigners in these camps.

"We are grateful to God that he is coming home, although the fight to prove his citizenship is far from over," Samina Begum, the ex-serviceman's wife said.

Mr. Sanaullah had joined the Army in 1987 and retired in August 2017 after 30 years of service.

The following year, he was appointed as a sub-inspector of the Assam Police's border wing that is tasked with detecting, detaining and deporting foreigners or illegal migrants.

The border wing dismis-

sed him from service on May 29.

The border police had made a case against Mr. Sanaullah, from a village near Boko about 60 km west of Guwahati, in 2008. The case was referred to a Foreigners' Tribunal, which found discrepancies in his documents and declared him a foreigner.

On Thursday, Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi had written to Union Home Minister Amit Shah demanding justice for the ex-serviceman.

"The bail is a temporary relief and I hope the Ministry of Home Affairs shows zero tolerance in such sensitive matters by reviewing the role of the enlisted government and police officials in this incident," he said.

## Jagan to have five Deputy Chief Ministers

While it was not possible for all 151 MLAs to become Ministers, nearly double the number of 25 could be accommodated through this rotation system, he said. The YSRCP legislators said Mr. Jagan in his speech indicated that the purpose behind having five Deputy Chief Ministers was to ensure that these sections get the priority they deserve.

As many as 35 MLAs expressed support to the pro-

posal to have more Dy.CMs and a new Cabinet after half term.

Party candidate, who won from Santhanuthalapa constituency, T.J.R. Sudhakar Babu told the media that much lip service had been paid to the subject of social justice in the past but Mr. Jagan had elevated himself to the level of social reformers like Jyothirao Phule by increasing the number of Deputy CM posts.

## 2 SPO-turned-militants among 4 killed in J&K

"Hussain was part of a group which was involved in planning and executing a series of attacks in the area. Bhat also carried out attacks on security establishments. Incriminating material, including arms and ammunition, were recovered from the encounter site," police officials said.

The police said the operation was a success despite local youths resorting to stone-pelting.

### Personnel withdrawn

A police official said most SPOs were withdrawn in October 2018 after "a series of cases of them deserting and joining militancy."

Seven AK rifles and one personal pistol went missing from the house of a law-

maker in Srinagar after SPO Adil Bashir joined the Hizbul Mujahideen last year.

"SPOs were also withdrawn from active policing, including working as Personal Security Officers to protected persons," said the police official. Around 23,000 SPOs were serving in the police in 2016 on ad hoc basis and 3,331 were converted as constables based on criteria like sports activities or qualifications like ITI. They were mainly deployed for non-combat positions such as drivers and cooks.

Two policemen were injured in a grenade attack by militants on a police station in Sopore, Baramulla. They suffered splinter injuries and were shifted to hospital.

## NPP first from NE to get national party status

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
GUWAHATI

The Election Commission of India on Friday declared the National People's Party led by Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma as a national party.

This made the NPP, formed by his father and former Lok Sabha Speaker Purno A. Sangma in 2013, the first from the north-eastern region to earn the tag.

### Four States

In its order, the ECI said that the NPP was given the national party status for fulfilling conditions such as polling more than 6% of the total votes in the last general election and being recog-

nised as a State party in at least four States.

The NPP is recognised as a State party in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya and Nagaland.

"Glad to announce to our party supporters, well-wishers and members of NPP that #ElectionCommissionOfIndia has accorded 'National Party' status to National People's Party," the Meghalaya Chief Minister said in a Twitter message. "It is a very nostalgic moment for all of us," he said in Meghalaya capital Shillong. The NPP is the single largest political family in Meghalaya with 21 MLAs in the 60-member House. Mr Sangma heads the coalition government there.

## Two ULFA men held

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency arrested two members of the banned militant group, the United Liberation Front of Assam, for allegedly gunning down five Bengali men in Assam's Tinsukia last year.

The accused, identified as Bubal Moran alias Tiger Asom, 26, and Binanda Dahoitya alias Swadesh, were arrested on Friday. Both are

residents of Tinsukia. The incident took place on November 1 last year.

"A case was registered against six unknown armed miscreants, suspected to be members of ULFA, for the killing of five residents of Bichanimukh Kherbari village in Tinsukia district of Assam, and causing grievous injuries to the sixth villager, outside the village last year," NIA said.

# Pakistan sends congratulatory letters

Islamabad seeks peaceful resolution of all outstanding issues in notes to Modi and Jaishankar

SUHASINI HAIDAR  
NEW DELHI

Days after the formation of the National Democratic Alliance government, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to congratulate him on his victory, while Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi has written a letter to his Indian counterpart Minister for External Affairs S. Jaishankar, congratulating him on his appointment as well, sources in Delhi and Islamabad confirmed.

The letters follow a phone call from Mr. Khan to Mr. Modi, as well as an exchange of tweets between the two leaders after the election results.

The letters, which New Delhi hasn't yet responded

to, conveyed official greetings as well as a hope that India-Pakistan bilateral ties will improve in the future. They were handed over to the Indian High Commission in Islamabad earlier this week.

According to Pakistani diplomatic sources, the letters sought "peace and stability in South Asia with the peaceful resolution of all outstanding issues, including the Jammu and Kashmir dispute," as well as "collective endeavours" for regional peace and prosperity, a possible reference to a SAARC summit, which Pakistan is keen to organise, but India has refused to attend.

The past few weeks have seen tensions between New Delhi and Islamabad rise over the tit-for-tat surveillance and harassment of their



S. Jaishankar

guests at 'Iftar' functions in each other's capital. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) issued a public protest against Pakistani police officials who intimidated guests at the Indian High Commission's Iftar event at a hotel in Islamabad on June 1, and the Pakistan Foreign Ministry wrote two letters protesting

similar actions by Indian security agencies against guests to the Pakistan National Day function on March 23 as well as the Iftar event at the Pakistan High Commission on May 28.

### Overcoming irritants

Despite the bitterness on the ground, however, the leaders of both the countries have kept up a steady set of exchanges over the period. Mr. Modi wrote a letter to Mr. Khan ahead of the Pakistan National Day, saying it was "time for the people of the subcontinent to work together for a democratic, peaceful, progressive and prosperous region, in an atmosphere free of terror and violence."

Mr. Khan welcomed the letter, calling for dialogue between the two countries.

After the BJP's win, Mr. Khan telephoned Mr. Modi to congratulate him. The conversation, which reportedly lasted about 15 minutes according to one source, included the need to improve bilateral ties, India's "neighbourhood first policy" and a desire to "fight poverty jointly." Both leaders have also exchanged public messages over twitter.

In addition, former Minister for External Affairs Sushma Swaraj and the Pakistan Foreign Minister met for a short "exchange of pleasantries" at the SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation) Foreign Ministers' meet in Bishkek in May, when Pakistan made an exception to the ban on flights to and from India to allow Ms. Swaraj's flight to travel through Pakistani airspace.

## Paswan set to get Rajya Sabha seat

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Union Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan, who did not contest the Lok Sabha election this time around, is likely to enter the Rajya Sabha on a vacancy that arose after BJP leader and Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad became a Lok Sabha MP after winning the Patna Sahib seat in Bihar.

Mr. Paswan's Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) is a constituent of the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance. It was hopeful of getting one of the two seats that fell vacant in Assam. The BJP, however, handed one to its own member, Kamakhya Prasad Tasa. The other seat will be given to ally Asom Gana Parishad.

## Amid factional fights, Moily tells Rahul to take charge

'Congress chief should quell indiscipline with an iron hand'

SANDEEP PHUKAN  
NEW DELHI

Senior Congress leader and former Karnataka Chief Minister M. Veerappa Moily on Friday appealed to Congress chief Rahul Gandhi to firmly take over the reins of the party once again to avoid 'confusion and crisis' in the party.

"It is important to protect the unity and integrity of the party and as the Congress president, it is his duty to ensure this," Mr. Moily told *The Hindu* over phone from Bengaluru. He said if Mr. Gandhi is determined to step down, then he himself should find a replacement.

The Congress veteran's assertions come in the backdrop of open factional fights in States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, and desertions in Telangana and Maharashtra.

"When the leadership does not act, all these things will happen. The Congress president needs to quell such indiscipline with an iron hand," Mr. Moily added.

The Congress seems to be in a state of confusion and uncertainty ever since Mr. Gandhi told the Congress Working Committee on May 25 that he would step down as party chief and his position was 'non-negotiable.'



Note of thanks: Congress president Rahul Gandhi greeting his supporters in his constituency Wayanad on Friday. •PTI

In the past two weeks, there has been a churn in the party: Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his Deputy and State Congress chief Sachin Pilot indulged in a blame game for the Lok Sabha washout, an internal meeting of Congress leaders in Haryana saw ugly exchanges and in Punjab, Chief Minister Capt. Amarinder Singh stripped his rival, Navjot Singh Sidhu, of an important portfolio.

### Telangana worries

To add to its woes, on Thursday, not only 12 elected Congress MLAs formally joined the TRS but a video clip of Nikhil Kumaraswamy, son of Janata Dal (Secular) leader and Karnataka CM H.D. Kumaraswamy, went viral.

In the video, Mr. Nikhil

could be heard telling his party workers to prepare for mid-term polls in the State as the Congress-JD(S) coalition government would not last its term.

Mr. Gandhi is yet to send a clear signal whether or not he would be on the saddle.

"If Mr. Gandhi thinks he can get away from allegations of dynastic politics by resigning, it won't work. The Gandhi family is a unifying factor and others can't easily fill that void," said Sriprakash Singh, professor in the department of the politics, Delhi University.

Meanwhile, the Congress downplayed the letter of former Olympian hockey player Aslam Sher Khan, offering his services to be Congress president for a period of two years.



Reaching out: Union Ministers Arjun Ram Meghwal, Pralhad Joshi and Narendra Singh Tomar with UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi at her residence in New Delhi on Friday. •ANI

## Ministers seek Sonia's help for smooth session

Centre plans to push through 10 ordinances in Parliament

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi on Friday called on Congress Parliamentary Party leader Sonia Gandhi at her residence ahead of the first session of the 17th Lok Sabha.

Mr. Joshi was accompanied by his colleagues, Narendra Singh Tomar and Arjun Meghwal.

"Our meeting with Sonia Gandhi was very cordial. We sought her cooperation for the smooth functioning of

Parliament. She said they [the Opposition] also need cooperation from treasury benches. I told her that the government has always been ready to cooperate," Mr. Joshi told reporters after the meeting.

### Speaker election

The first session will get under way on June 17 and will continue till July 26. After the new MPs take oath on the first two days, the Lok Sabha Speaker's election is scheduled for June 19.

The full Union Budget for the financial year 2019-2020 will be presented on July 5.

Buoyed by the best ever performance by the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance, the Union government plans to push through 10 ordinances, including the one that makes instant triple talaq a criminal offence.

On Wednesday, Mr. Joshi had called on Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad and DMK leader in Lok Sabha, T.R. Bалу.

## Mamata to skip NITI Aayog meeting

Earlier, there was space for States to talk and it is absent now, says Bengal CM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said on Friday that she would not attend the NITI Aayog meeting scheduled for June 15.

"The States cannot place their views. There is no point in attending [the NITI Aayog] meetings," she said.

Earlier, she wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who heads the NITI Aayog, setting forth the reasons for her decision.

"I have said this before: the NITI Aayog is not effective. They [the BJP-led government] removed the In-

## She is behaving like an anti-national: Bengal BJP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
KOLKATA

Lashing out at Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for her decision to skip the NITI Aayog meeting, the Bengal BJP unit on Friday said the Trinamool chief was

behaving like an "anti-national" and trying to scuttle the growth of Bengal.

The Trinamool hit back, saying it does not need lessons on nationalism or development from a "communal party like the BJP".

Aayog meetings," Ms. Banerjee said.

"The Planning Commission, founded by Subhash Chandra Bose, was effec-

tive... There was space for the States to talk, and it is absent now. Now, they [the Union government] have some agenda, they place the agenda, and we are expected to discuss it. It is unacceptable," she said.

Ms. Banerjee reiterated the need for all Opposition parties to come together to oppose the use of electronic voting machines. "Now, we hear that two million EVMS are missing. Where are they? In 20-30% of the areas, problems [were reported]. It is a big scandal, and all parties should come together and protest," she said.

## Dissenting view not part of final order, says EC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission has issued a formal directive, ruling that dissenting opinion in the Model Code of Conduct violation cases will not be included in the final order. Only the majority or unanimous decision will be communicated to the parties.

The written order dated June 4 follows the EC's decision on May 21, rejecting Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa's demand that mi-

nority view be reflected in the final order.

### Lavasa's plea

The issue had come up before the full bench after Mr. Lavasa objected to his dissenting opinion not being included in the orders.

Mr. Lavasa had given dissenting views in at least five matters pertaining to speeches by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP president Amit Shah during the campaigning for the Lok Sabha election.

## More security men for Amit Shah's residence

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi police have reviewed the security for Union Home Minister Amit Shah and moved more security men to his Akbar Road residence, a senior government official said on Friday.

Mr. Shah already has a Z-plus security cover of the Central Reserve Police Force.

Mr. Shah, who took charge last week, is living in a Type-VIII bungalow at 11, Akbar Road. The house was

allotted to him in his capacity as BJP president. He is expected to shift soon to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's 6A, Krishna Menon Marg residence.

The official said Mr. Shah's residence would be fortified further and additional crowd-control measures would be put in place.

The Delhi police had set up a multilayer security cordon around Rajnath Singh's 17, Akbar Road bungalow when he was the Home Minister.

## Disclose source of poll funding, Cong. tells BJP

'It spent ₹27,000 cr. during LS election'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday asked the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to disclose the sources of its election funding after a report by a think tank claimed that the ruling party spent nearly ₹27,000 crore out of a total of ₹60,000 crore spent in the recently concluded Lok Sabha election.

The principal Opposition party also demanded a white paper on the excessive commercialisation of elections and how the government planned to tackle it. "The BJP's strategy is money, money and more money...Without a level playing field, you cannot have fair, independent, objective, non-partisan elections. And if you cannot have fair elections, then you cannot have democracy," Congress spokesperson Abhishek Manu Singhvi told reporters.

"According to a recent report by an independent think tank Centre for Media Studies (CMS), the BJP spent close to ₹27,000 crore. This is 45% of the total expenditure which is estimated to be close to ₹60,000 crore."

"The BJP's spending in Lok Sabha Elections 2019 is equal to 30% of India's education budget, 43% of India's Health Budget, 10% of India's Defence Budget and



Abhishek Manu Singhvi

45% of MGNREGA Budget," he added.

### ₹700 spent per voter'

Mr. Singhvi said the election expenditure had gone up nearly six times from ₹9,000-10,000 crore in 1998 to ₹55,000-60,000 crore in the 2019 Lok Sabha election. The report - based on secondary information, field studies and analysis - calculated that ₹700 was spent per voter and roughly ₹100 crore was spent for each parliamentary constituency.

Asked if the Congress could verify the amount of election expenditure mentioned in the report that estimated that it spent 15-20% of the ₹60,000 crore, he said: "I rely on a published research report by a non-political independent organisation. This is a figure arrived at after research...Certainly, if the party in power discloses the details, every other party will definitely disclose the figures."





**ED summons Chanda Kochhar for questioning**

**NEW DELHI**  
The Enforcement Directorate has summoned Chanda Kochhar, the former ICI Bank managing director and CEO, for questioning on June 10 in connection with the Videocon Group loans case. Ms. Kochhar was earlier asked to appear before the investigators on June 6, but she expressed her inability to do so.

**Twitter restores handle of Chinar Corps**

**SINAGAR**  
The Twitter handle of the Army's Srinagar-based Chinar Corps was restored on Friday after a furore on social media in the wake of its suspension on Thursday. The Chinar Corps — also known as 15 Corps — oversees anti-militancy operations on the Line of Control and hinterland in the Kashmir valley. ■PTI

**Cabinet Secretary gets 3-month extension**

**AHMEDABAD**  
Cabinet Secretary Pradeep Kumar Sinha was on Friday given an extension of three months in service beyond June 12, 2019. Mr. Sinha's extended term as the Cabinet Secretary will now expire on September 12, 2019. This is the third extension for Mr. Sinha since his appointment as the top bureaucrat in 2015 for a fixed term of two years.

**Kolkata ex-top cop deposes before CBI**

**KOLKATA**  
Former Commissioner of Kolkata Police Rajeev Kumar on Friday appeared before the Central Bureau of Investigation in connection with the multi-crore Saradha scam. Mr. Kumar, presently the Additional DGP in the CID, reached the CBI office in the morning to face questioning for the second time, sources in the agency said. ■PTI

# Policy moots all-India entrance tests for UG courses in public colleges

**A new order** A look at the structure of the country's premier testing agency



**Looking ahead:** (according to draft National Education Policy)

- Aptitude and subject tests mandatory for UG admission to all public universities and colleges
- Tests for teacher recruitment
- Test scores accepted in India and abroad
- Creation of assessment database

**What is the NTA?**

- The National Testing Agency was established in 2018
- **Chairperson:** Former IIT-M director M.S. Ananth
- Autonomous, conducts standardised, computer based entrance tests

**Current tests (from 2019):**

- JEE Main:** B.E./B.Tech/B.Arch courses at NITs, IITs; first step for IITs
- NEET:** MBBS & BDS except AIIMS, JIPMER
- CMAT:** MBA courses for AICTE-approved institutions
- GPAT:** M.Pharm courses for AICTE approved institutions
- UGC-NET**
- NCHM JEE:** B.Sc. in Hotel Management
- Delhi University:** 170+ UG, PG, M.Phil, Ph.D programmes

Private institutions will be encouraged to use the common tests: draft policy

**PRISCILLA JEBARAJ**  
**NEW DELHI**  
Admission to undergraduate courses in all government-funded universities and colleges will soon be through all-India entrance tests, if the draft National Education Policy is approved. Private institutions will also be strongly encouraged to make use of the common admission tests, which would be available from 2020. Both aptitude and subject knowledge-based tests would be offered.

The system seems to have some similarities to the SAT, a standardised aptitude test widely used for admissions to colleges and universities in the United States. The SAT, however, is used as a

through the NTA," says the draft policy. This seems to indicate that the NTA assessment may replace Class 12 marks as the criteria for admission to these state-funded institutions. "This will help to eliminate the intensity, stressfulness, and wasted time of the Grade 12 examination season faced by students every year as well as by so many higher educational institutions and employers," it adds.

**Offer flexibility**  
The NTA testing system would offer flexibility. "[From] 2020 onwards, [the NTA] will administer aptitude tests and tests in specific subjects that can be taken on multiple occasions dur-

ing the year in order to reduce the intense and unnecessary pressures of the university entrance examinations system," adds the draft. "The NTA tests will aim to assess essential concepts, knowledge, and higher order skills from the national common curriculum... for the purpose of aiding colleges and universities in their admissions decisions."

Private institutions could set their own criteria, but "most educational institutions will be encouraged to use these NTA tests."

The draft projects the NTA establishing test centres across the country, offering tests in multiple languages.

## Bilkis case: IPS officer dismissed

Faces action a day before retirement

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
**AHMEDABAD**  
Gujarat cadre IPS officer R.S. Bhagora, an accused in the 2002 Bilkis Bano case, was dismissed from service by the Union Home Ministry on May 30, a day before his retirement on May 31.

The 60-year-old officer was set to retire on May 31 and was serving as Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic) with the Ahmedabad police when his dismissal order came.

Mr. Bhagora was promoted to IPS from the State police service in 2009. His dismissal from the service means he would not get any post-retirement benefits from the government.

Earlier in March this year, the Supreme Court had

asked the Gujarat government to take disciplinary action against the erring police officials, including Mr. Bhagora, convicted by the Bombay High Court for dereliction of duty in the Bilkis Bano gang-rape case.

Among the police officials, four — a deputy superintendent of police, two inspectors and a constable — have retired from service.

**Compensation fiat**  
Subsequently in April, the Supreme Court directed the Gujarat government to give ₹50 lakh as compensation, a government job with accommodation to Ms. Bano who was gangraped in one of the worst mass murder cases in the 2002 Gujarat riots.

## U.P. forms SIT to probe child's murder

A forensic team will also be part of the investigation to ascertain the full nature of the crime: ADGP



**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
**LUCKNOW**  
The Uttar Pradesh police on Friday constituted a Special Investigation Team to probe the murder of an infant in Aligarh amid huge public outcry.

A forensic team will also be part of the probe to ascertain the full nature of the crime; preliminary autopsy reports ruled out rape and concluded the child was murdered by strangulation.

The SIT would be headed by SP (Rural) Aligarh and would include SOG and surveillance teams for technical support, said UP ADG Law and Order Anand Kumar.

The officer said the SIT would gather "forensic science and scientific evidence" and the case would be probed on a fast-track mode and sent to court.

If fresh accused come to light during the investigation, they would also be punished by law, he said. So far, the police have arrested two accused, Aslam and Zahid, for allegedly murdering the 2.5-year-old infant in Aligarh's Tappal area. The victim's family has alleged other people were involved in the

## Rahul, Priyanka express shock, demand action

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
**NEW DELHI**  
Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Friday expressed shock at the horrific killing of a three-year-old girl in Aligarh and demanded swift action against the perpetrators of the crime.

"How can any human being treat a child with such brutality?" he wrote on Twitter. Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also condemned the inhuman crime.

Earlier it will take 14-15 days to get a report, said Mr. Kulhary.

A forensic team from Agra will also come to Aligarh to recreate the crime.

The SSP said five policemen, including the in-charge inspector and two sub-inspectors, were suspended for negligence.

## Al-Qaeda anoints new chief for India wing

School dropout Hameed Lelhari will head the Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind

**PEERZADA ASHIQ**  
**SINAGAR**  
Global terror outfit Al-Qaeda has announced a new chief for its India wing, the Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind (AGH), two weeks after its top 'commander' Zakir Musa was killed in an encounter in Pulwama's Tral.

Hameed Lelhari alias Haroon Abbas will replace Musa and Ghazi Ibrahim Khalid will be his deputy, Abu Ubaidah Hafizhullah, a spokesman of the group made these claims in an 11-minute video released on the outfit's official media handle al-Hurr on the occasion of Eid.

AGH chief Musa was killed in an operation on May 23 in

Pulwama's Tral. He had replaced slain militant 'commander' Burhan Wani in 2016, but quit the Hizb ul Mujahideen. His name first appeared in an Arabic publication close to al-Qaeda in May 2017.

The police suggested that the new chief Lelhari, 30, comes from a poor background, unlike Musa, and is a resident of Pulwama's Lelhar area. Police records suggest Lelhari, after dropping out of school, took up small-time jobs as a labourer, cook and mason "to meet ends".

However, his name did not figure in the list of top ten wanted militants compiled by the Union Home Mi-

nistry recently. Hours after the declaration on the new AGH chief, Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) spokesman Usama Mahmood, in another audio clipping, praised Musa in a bid to show global militants' sympathy for him. This audio clipping was released by the outfit's as-Sahab media group.

**'Saddened, mourning'**  
"Every militant in Afghanistan is saddened and mourning the killing of Musa... may Kashmir have many more Zakir Musas. Also, Muslims in Kashmir and other Muslims should take ahead the mission of Zakir Musa, Bur-

## ISI plot foiled, six spies arrested in Jammu

Images of strategic locations seized

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
**JAMMU**  
A major plot by Pakistani spy agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) to revive militancy in the Jammu region has been unearthed with the arrest of six persons, officials said on Friday.

Photographs and videos of strategic locations have been seized from those arrested, the officials added.

The spies were in direct contact with their handler, a Colonel-level officer at the ISI Kashmir cell, identified only by his first name Iftikhar, and with the terrorist group Hizb-ul-Mujahideen across the border.

During interrogation, Mushtaq Ahmed Malik, 38, from Doda, and Nadeem Akhter, 24, from Kathua, revealed that they were also being guided by their handlers in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

They disclosed information about four others engaged as Pakistani spies in the Jammu region, officials said.

Based on that information, Saddam Hussain, Mohammad Saleem and Mohammad Shafi, all from Kathua district, and Safdar Ali, from Basantgarh in Udhampur district, were arrested, the officials said.

## Sidhu, Amarinder spat may hurt Congress in Punjab

Former cricketer unlikely to accept change in portfolio

**VIKAS VASUDEVA**  
**CHANDIGARH**  
The intensifying tussle between Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh and his cabinet colleague Navjot Singh Sidhu threatens to hurt the Congress party's image in one of the few States where it performed well in the last Lok Sabha elections, according to political analysts.

Mr. Sidhu is yet to take charge of his new allotted Power ministry after being divested of the key Local Government ministry. Analysts said the former cricketer was unlikely to take the change in portfolio lying down.

"Congress is already riddled with factionalism in many States; the ongoing spat between the two leaders in Punjab is not a good sign for the party," said Mohammed Khalid, Professor of Political Science at Panjab



A file photo of Amarinder Singh, left, and Navjot Singh Sidhu. ■PTI

University. "Congress is going through a tough situation at the national level and such episodes [the internal tussle] will only make the revival of the party very difficult," he added.

Capt. Amarinder had on Thursday divested Mr. Sidhu of the Local Government and Tourism and Cultural Affairs departments and allocated the Power and New and Renewable Energy

Sources portfolios. However, barring four ministers, the Chief Minister had made some changes to the portfolios of all the other ministers.

The two leaders have been at loggerheads since the recently concluded Lok Sabha polls. Capt. Amarinder had hit out at Mr. Sidhu after the results, asserting that "Sidhu's damaging remarks ahead of polling" might have affected the party's performance in Bathinda, where the Congress lost to the Shiromani Akali Dal's Harsimrat Kaur Badal.

"Amarinder Singh has emerged as a strong leader after the Lok Sabha polls," said Ashutosh Kumar, Professor of Political Science at Panjab University. "On the other hand, Sidhu may also not back down. If the spat continues it will eventually weaken the party," Prof. Kumar said.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**  
**SATISH DHAWAN SPACE CENTRE SHAR**  
**CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP SRIHARIKOTA-524124.**

**Corrigendum-I** Dt:06/06/2019

Sub: Providing External Water Supply, External Sewerage System at Proposed Visitors Complex, SDSC SHAR - Reg; Ref: e-NIT NO: CMG/C/C 1987009 dt:23/05/2019

Please note the following change in the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for the subject work. Value: ₹114 Lakhs, Period: 4 Months

Sl.No.	Description	Read for	Read As
1	Period during which the tender documents can be requested	From :29/05/2019,10:00Hrs To: 07/06/2019,14:00Hrs	Extended upto: 14/06/2019
2	Last date and time for uploading of tenders	11/06/2019,14:30 Hrs	Extended upto: 18/06/2019

All other terms & conditions of tender remain unaltered. This corrigendum also forms a part of the tender document.  
Group Director, CMG, SDSC SHAR

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF,**  
**RURAL WORKS: BHUBANESWAR**  
Letter No.14631 Dtd. 06.06.19

**"e" Procurement Notice for road works under PLAN SCHEME (Online-01/2019-20 (Road) C.E., Plan Roads**

- Name of the work : "Construction of Roads works"
- Total No. of Works : 2 (Two) nos
- Estimated cost : Varies from 400.00 lakh to 800.00 Lakh
- Class of Contractor : (a) Estimated cost more than 3.00 Cr. & within 6.00 Cr. : 'A' Class & Special Class. (b) Estimated cost more than 6.00 Cr. & within 15.00 Cr. : Special Class & Super Class
- Period of Completion : Varies from 09 (Nine) to 11 (Eleven) Calendar months as applicable
- Other details

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification	No. of Road works	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding	
			From	To
Chief Engineer, Plan Roads, Odisha, Bhubaneswar	Online-01/2019-20 C.E., Plan Roads	2 (Two) nos.	12.06.2019 at 11.00 A.M	27.06.2019 upto 3.00 P.M

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents, which is available in website [www.tendersorissa.gov.in](http://www.tendersorissa.gov.in)

Any subsequent addendum or corrigendum will be made available in the above website.  
25123/11/0004/1920 Chief Engineer, Plan Roads, R.W., Odisha, Bhubaneswar

**NLC India Limited**  
"Navratna" - Government of India Enterprise

Regd. Office : First Floor, No.8, Mayor Sathyamurthy Road, Egmore Complex of Food Corporation of India, Chelpet, Chennai - 600 031.  
Corp. Office : Block-1, Neyveli-607 801, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu.  
CIN No.: L32090TN1956GOI003507, Website: [www.nlcindia.com](http://www.nlcindia.com)

**DOMESTIC COMPETITIVE BIDDING**

Sealed Bids in English (One Original and Six identical copies) are invited by NLC India Limited, Neyveli for **IMPLEMENTATION OF SAP ERP PHASE-II - IMPLEMENTATION OF LOGISTIC MODULES OF SAP IN NLC India Limited** as per the details given below:

Tender No.: **CO CONTS / 0015H / CO / SAP ERP Phase-II / 2019**, dt. **04.06.2019**

**B.G. Amount: ₹ 30,00,000/-** Cost of tender document: **₹ 20,000/-**

Tender document sale period: 18-06-2019 to 19-07-2019

Last Date & Time for receipt of bids : 20-07-2019 upto 14.30 Hrs.

Date & Time of opening of bids (Part-I) : 20-07-2019 at 15.00 Hrs.

Date of Pre-Bid Conference: On 01-07-2019 at 11.00 Hrs

For further details such as Qualifying Requirements, Detailed scope of work etc., please visit our website: [www.nlcindia.com/econts.nlcindia.com](http://www.nlcindia.com/econts.nlcindia.com) or Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) of Government of India website [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in) or contact the Chief General Manager / Contracts, Corporate Office, NLC India Ltd., Neyveli-607801, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu, India. Telephone No.:04142-252210, & 251620 Fax No. 04142-252206, 252645 / 252646. email id: [gmconts\\_co@nlcindia.in](mailto:gmconts_co@nlcindia.in)

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR SUPPLIES (e-Tender Notices Sl.No.1&2)**

Sl.No.	Tender Ref./Scope of supplies & Qty. reqd.
1. UNIT-MM COMPLEX:ENQ/19-20/00417/MM05 (05) dt.23-05-2019:	Procurement of 2 Items of Seamless Tubes. Due date of opening:20-06-2019
2. PTE. NO/19-20/000481/MM01 (06) dt.23-05-2019: 9 Items of Cam Wheel Shaft & Return Wheel Shaft.	Due date of opening:24-06-2019

FOR e-TENDER DOCUMENTS/DETAILS/CORRIGENDUM VISIT: [www.nlcindia.com](http://www.nlcindia.com)

**NEYVELI BOOK FAIR 2019: 5<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> JULY 2019**

**KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER KALABURGI**  
Opp. Mini Soudha, Aiwan-e-Shahi Road, Kalaburgi-585 102.  
Tel: 08472-220817, Fax: 08472-260818. E-mail: [kwbceklb14@gmail.com](mailto:kwbceklb14@gmail.com)

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**  
(Through e-Procurement portal only)

Item-rate Tenders are invited for the following work through e-Procurement from eligible Agency/Contractors as detailed below:

**Package No.1: KWB/CE(K)/TEC/AE-2/WS-KRG/299/2019-20**  
**Date: 07.06.2019. Work indent in e-procurement portal: KUWSDB/2019-20/WS/WORK\_IDENT 2449.**

**Name & Description of Work:** Construction of Aerator, Flash mixer, Civil & Mechanical works for Lamella & SMFT, Storage Sump, Filter Pump House, Chemical House, Chlorine room, Sludge Pit & Sludge line and Providing & Laying of 200mm dia DI line from IR to Sump & from Sump Aerator & DI pipeline Rising main to Existing OHT's and Design and Installation of 3 MLD capacity Micro screen filtration plant including O&M for period of 1 year (Item rate) for Kurugodu Town in Ballari District under Nagarothana 3rd Phase. Approx. value of work: **Rs.2,46,87,652/-** (Excluding GST). EMD: **Rs.3,70,500/-**. Tender processing fee: **As per e-procurement portal.** Period of completion (including monsoon): **09 (Nine) months.**

**Calendar of Events**

1	Date & Time for Commencement of downloading of tender documents	14.06.2019 after 12.30 Hrs.
2	Last Date & Time for receipt of queries	27.06.2019 upto 11.00 Hrs.
3	Date & Time for Pre-Bid Meeting	27.06.2019 at 11.30 Hrs.
4	Last Date & Time for submission/ uploading of tender in the e-procurement portal	15.07.2019 upto 17.30 Hrs.
5	Date & time of opening of the Technical tenders	18.07.2019 after 11.00 Hrs.
6	Date & time of opening of the Financial tenders	Will be notified later.

Tenderers should quote the rates excluding GST. Prevailing GST will be paid separately at the time of payment.

For further details, the Office of the Chief Engineer, KUWS&D Board, Kalaburgi, may please be contacted or website <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> or e-Procurement helpdesk: 080-25501216/25501227. e-mail support: [hpshelpdesk.kbr@ntarvo.com](mailto:hpshelpdesk.kbr@ntarvo.com).

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**After May, who?**

There are 11 Conservative lawmakers seeking to replace outgoing Prime Minister Theresa May, eight of whom are open to the U.K. leaving the European Union on October 31 without a deal. Their names have been arranged here to reflect their positions on Brexit. Also given are the odds of them winning (in %, aggregated from different betting sites)



1%	4%	11%	65%	3%	12%	13%
<b>Esther McVey</b> Former Works and Pensions Secretary Candidate with the hardest position on Brexit, who wants the U.K. to leave without a deal on October 31	<b>Dominic Raab</b> Former Brexit Secretary He plans to seek a "fairer deal" but will not delay Brexit beyond October, and is prepared to leave without a deal	<b>Andrea Leadsom</b> Former House of Commons leader She will try to come up with a "deal we can all live with" but wants the U.K. to leave by October	<b>Boris Johnson</b> Former Foreign Secretary He said in a campaign video that Britain will leave the EU on October 31 "deal or no deal"	<b>Sajid Javid</b> Home Secretary A former 'Remainer', he wants to renegotiate the deal with the EU but is also prepared to leave without one	<b>Michael Gove</b> Environment Secretary He will seek a Canada-style free trade agreement with the EU and wants the U.K. to leave before October 31	<b>Jeremy Hunt</b> Foreign Secretary An ex-'Remainer', he says that while he would prefer to leave with a deal, a no-deal exit is better than no Brexit
1%	2%	4%	0%	<b>HOW DOES THE ELECTION HAPPEN?</b>		
<b>Mark Harper</b> Former 'Remainer', he favours extending Article 50. However, he is also open to leaving without a deal if revisions are not possible	<b>Matt Hancock</b> Health Secretary A former 'Remainer', he has said that leaving without a deal is not an option as Parliament would not allow it	<b>Rory Stewart</b> International Development Secretary A former 'Remainer', he opposes a 'no-deal Brexit' and favours a "pragmatic, moderate" version of it	<b>Sam Gyimah</b> Ex-Universities Secretary The only candidate to back another referendum. He said he was only joining the contest to "broaden the race"	<b>a) Nomination (next week):</b> Candidates should be nominated by at least two other Conservative MPs		
<b>b) Ballot of MPs: to be concluded by June-end</b> Conservative MPs will hold several rounds of votes to whittle down the number of candidates. The process usually gets repeated till there are only two candidates remaining				<b>c) Membership vote:</b> The final candidates are put to a postal ballot of the wider Conservative Party membership, which numbers about 1,60,000		

SOURCE: REUTERS, GUARDIAN

# May quits as Tory leader, succession race begins

She will remain British Prime Minister until a new Conservative leader is chosen; the process is likely to finish by July-end

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE LONDON

British Prime Minister Theresa May stepped down as leader of her Conservative Party on Friday, formally triggering the race for a successor who will try where she failed to deliver Brexit.

Ms. May will remain Prime Minister until a new leader is chosen, likely in late July, but will make no further moves on Britain's tortuous departure from the European Union.

Brexit is still scheduled for October 31 but while the contenders thrash it out over the leadership, the project remains stalled, with the only divorce plan agreed with Brussels rejected in Parliament.

**Monday deadline**

Eleven Conservative MPs have declared their intention to stand to replace Ms. May, including former Foreign Minister Boris Johnson, but some are expected to drop out before Monday's deadline for nominations.

The winner will have only a few months to decide whether to try to salvage Ms. May's plan, delay Brexit again – or sever ties with Britain's closest trading partner with no agreement at all.

The government is under pressure from eurosceptic figurehead Nigel Farage, who has called for a "no deal" option and whose newly-formed Brexit Party comfortably topped the European Parliament elections last month.

His single-issue party suffered a setback after narrowly missing out on winning its first parliamentary seat, losing to Labour in a by-election in the eastern city of Peterborough on Thursday.

Leadership contest frontrunner Mr. Johnson warned that the centre-right Conser-



The Prime Minister's official residence, 10 Downing Street, will get a new occupant by the end of next month. •AP

vatives "must deliver Brexit by October 31 or we risk Brexit Party votes delivering Corbyn to No 10", referring to leftist Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn getting into Downing Street.

Meanwhile leadership rival Jeremy Hunt, the Foreign

Minister, warned that there was "no future for our party" until Britain leaves the EU.

Ms. May put on a brave face this week when hosting U.S. President Donald Trump for a state visit, before joining him and other

world leaders to mark 75 years since the D-Day landings. "She remains Prime Minister for a good few weeks yet," Ms. May's spokesman insisted, noting that any successor must meet Queen Elizabeth II and assure the head of state that they have the support of enough lawmakers to take over.

**Secret ballots**

Nominations for the Conservative leadership contest open and close on Monday, and the 313 Conservative MPs – including Ms. May – will hold the first of a series of secret ballots on Thursday.

With the worst performers eliminated each time, the goal is to have two candidates left by June 20. They will then be put to a ballot of an estimated 1,60,000 party members. The contest should be completed in the week commencing July 22.

## Court quashes case against Boris Johnson

REUTERS LONDON

Judges at London's High Court have thrown out an attempt to prosecute Boris Johnson for allegedly lying about Brexit during the 2016 EU referendum campaign. The case revolved around a claim famously emblazoned on Mr. Johnson's "Leave" campaign bus that Britain would be £350 million a week better off outside the EU.

At a judicial review hearing on Friday at the High Court, Mr. Johnson's lawyer Adrian Darbishire said that judge had either erred in law or provided the wrong legal test in allowing the case to go ahead.

# Sirisena wanted Speaker to scrap parliamentary probe

He felt that a 'parallel investigation' into Easter attacks could hinder criminal cases on the bombings

MEERA SRINIVASAN COLOMBO

President Maithripala Sirisena on Friday said that he conveyed to the Speaker earlier this week that the ongoing probe into the Easter attacks by a parliamentary panel could hinder court proceedings in the criminal investigations of the bombings.

On Thursday, however, the Parliamentary Select Committee (PSC) – which was informed of the President's note – told the Speaker that sittings would continue. In a letter to the Speaker, PSC members said the Parliament is the sole judge of its powers and privileges, and had exclusive jurisdiction over its own proceedings, *The Hindu* has learnt.



Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena. •AFP

In a meeting with senior police officers on Friday, Mr. Sirisena said he had written to the Speaker, citing the backdrop of five cases filed on the Easter bombings. "I shared with the Speaker the Attorney General's written observations that the [parallel] investigation by a Parliamentary committee could affect proceedings. But, it is sad

that the Speaker did not express any view on the matter in Parliament," he told the officers, according to a press release.

In a letter dated June 4, Mr. Sirisena sought to draw the Speaker's attention to the AG's opinion that the proceedings of the committee "could be prejudicial and would cause adverse impact on the judicial proceeding in the Supreme Court."

**Panel dismisses request**

In a strongly worded response dated June 6, members of the PSC told the Speaker that the judiciary and the Parliament have "historically maintained comity of relations and are capable of continuing that great tradition". Any attempt by the executive to interfere

in our relationship "is unlawful", and potentially "a breach of privileges" of the committee and the House.

The response signed by the PSC members also cites earlier rulings that the executive or the judiciary cannot interfere with the powers of the legislature.

Further, in Friday's meeting with the senior police officials and later, at an "emergency Cabinet meeting", Mr. Sirisena vowed not to send any officer in service to testify before the parliamentary panel. He observed that the sittings, which the media have been allowed to cover, could have a bearing on national security, sources said.

His decision comes a day after a suspended IGP and a former Defence Secretary shared damning evidence of

having received prior intelligence on possible terror attacks ahead of the April 21 bombings.

**Coverage by media**

At Thursday's PSC sitting – the third session – acting chairperson Jayampathy Wickremaratne said it was the first time in the country's history that media could cover a parliamentary panel's sitting.

On concerns that giving the media access to proceedings may impact national security, Mr. Wickremaratne earlier said that exposing the negligence of officials, who had failed to thwart terror attacks despite prior warnings, was not a threat to the country's national security. "The public have the right to know," he said.

# Russia, U.S. trade charges after ships come close to collision

Navies blame each other for manoeuvres in East China Sea

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE MOSCOW

Russia and the U.S. on Friday accused each other of dangerous manoeuvres after their ships came close to collision in the East China Sea.

On Friday morning, Russia's Pacific Fleet said that the *USS Chancellorsville* guided-missile cruiser suddenly cut across the course of its *Admiral Vinogradov* anti-submarine ship, passing in front of it at a distance of just 50 m. The Russian ship had to carry out an emergency manoeuvre to avoid collision, the Navy said, adding that it had sent a message of protest to the U.S. cruiser's commanders.



A Russian destroyer, left, sailing close to a U.S. ship, in the Philippine Sea. •AP

within 50 to 100 feet of the *Chancellorsville*, "putting the safety of her crew and ship at risk."

"We consider Russia's actions during this interaction as unsafe and unprofessional," the U.S. Navy said.

Russia and the U.S. regularly accuse each other of carrying out dangerous naval or aerial manoeuvres.

In June 2016, Moscow and Washington traded accusations after their naval ships sailed closely past each other in the eastern Mediterranean. A month later, the U.S. accused Russia of "aggressive" and "erratic" moves by one of its warships in the same waters.

**ELSEWHERE**



**Ethiopia PM in Sudan to revive peace talks**

KHARTOUM  
Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed arrived in Khartoum on Friday seeking to revive talks between Sudan's ruling generals and protest leaders as heavily armed paramilitaries remained deployed after a deadly crackdown, leaving residents in terror. The talks mission came after the African Union suspended Sudan on Thursday. •AFP

**Iran rejects French call for wider talks**

DUBAI  
Iran rejected French calls for wider international talks over its nuclear and military ambitions, saying on Friday it would only discuss the 2015 atomic pact with world powers, state TV reported. Iran's Foreign Ministry said it would not hold any talks beyond the pact. •REUTERS

# U.S. Sikh airman allowed to sport turban, beard

First airman to be given permission

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA WASHINGTON

A Sikh airman has been allowed by the U.S. Air Force to serve with a beard, turban and unshorn hair, making him the first active-duty airman to be granted such a religious accommodation.

Harpreetinder Singh Bajwa, who joined the Air Force in 2017 and is currently positioned as a crew chief at Washington's McChord Air Force Base, was unable to follow the practice due to the military branch's grooming and dress codes.

The Air Force granted him an accommodation after Mr. Bajwa gained representation from the Sikh American Veterans Alliance, and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), NBC news reported.

"I'm overjoyed that the Air Force has granted my religious accommodation," said Mr. Bajwa. "Today, I feel that my country has embraced my Sikh heritage,



Harpreetinder Singh Bajwa

and I will be forever grateful for this opportunity," he said.

In 2016, Captain Simratpal Singh, a decorated Sikh-American officer and combat veteran, received a long-term religious accommodation from the U.S. Army to serve with long hair, a beard, and turban. The Army updated its regulations the following year, directing commanders to allow accommodations for observant Sikhs.

# Biden favours federal funding for abortion

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE WASHINGTON

Joe Biden on Thursday reversed his long-standing opposition to using federal funds for abortions. For decades, the former Vice-President supported the controversial provision that many in his party are now aiming to overturn.

The 40-year-old Hyde Amendment makes it illegal for U.S. tax dollars to be spent on abortions except in rare cases when a pregnancy endangers the life of the mother, or when the pregnancy results from rape or incest.

"Women's rights and health care are under assault in a way that seeks to roll back every step of progress we've made over the last 50 years," Mr. Biden tweeted.

"If I believe health care is a right, as I do, I can no longer support an amendment that makes that right dependent on someone's zip code."

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- (2) AMC of Modular Operation Theatre
- (3) E-Journal / Books for Library
- (4) Procurement of Stationary / General Store / Electrical & Civil items / printing of forms & registers.
- (5) Procurement of Raw materials / Components for fitting of Prostehsis & Orthosis.
- (6) Procurement of Medicine & Hospital consumable materials (Surgical items / laboratory chemicals / X-ray films & consumables)
- (7) Hiring of manpower on yearly contract basis for CRC, Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh
- (8) Hiring of 5 seated car on yearly contact basis for CRC, Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

Availability of bid documents	08.06.2019
Last date for bid submission	27.06.2019
Opening date of technical bid	28.06.2019

*For more details log on to <http://www.svnirtar.nic.in>*

**Director**



MARKET WATCH

	07-06-2019	% CHANGE
Sensex	39,616	0.22
US Dollar	69.46	-0.25
Gold	33,420	-0.20
Brent oil	62.44	2.96

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	425.20	-1.10
Asian Paints	1418.35	-10.20
Axis Bank	804.00	-3.70
Bajaj Auto	2961.40	-30.25
Bajaj Finserv	8202.35	77.15
Bajaj Finance	3509.45	56.50
Bharti Airtel	357.10	3.30
BPCL	403.00	5.95
Britannia Ind	2899.30	-2.05
Cipla	549.50	-10.30
Coal India	265.55	-3.60
Dr Reddys Lab	2580.70	-76.60
Eicher Motors	19997.75	-86.05
GAIL (India)	313.85	-2.45
Grasim Ind	871.45	1.90
HCL Tech	1079.60	0.40
HDFC	2210.85	27.40
HDFC Bank	2447.65	24.30
Hero MotoCorp	2762.80	-25.95
Hindalco	194.80	-0.05
Hind Unilever	1830.75	-7.00
Indiabulls HFL	731.10	-4.70
ICICI Bank	416.60	5.05
IndusInd Bank	1552.20	29.55
Bharti Infratel	279.65	6.15
Infosys	739.10	3.50
Indian Oil Corp	163.80	0.25
ITC	275.25	-0.50
JSW Steel	262.40	-4.30
Kotak Bank	151.80	-2.45
L&T	1513.85	-2.05
M&M	644.05	9.95
Maruti Suzuki	6948.25	-40.45
NTPC	135.15	-1.40
ONGC	167.50	-1.90
PowerGrid Corp	191.75	-3.70
Reliance Ind	1314.90	-12.45
State Bank	342.05	5.15
Sun Pharma	399.25	-4.90
Tata Motors	169.50	-0.20
Tata Steel	482.10	-2.50
TCS	2181.75	15.65
Tech Mahindra	750.75	12.75
Titan	1268.95	-0.50
UltraTech Cement	4572.85	1.65
UPL	1019.45	7.25
Vedanta	164.20	1.10
Wipro	295.05	3.55
YES Bank	139.90	-3.50
Zee Entertainment	340.20	-0.85

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 07

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	69.27	69.59
Euro	78.08	78.44
British Pound	88.05	88.47
Japanese Yen (100)	63.85	64.14
Chinese Yuan	10.03	10.08
Swiss Franc	69.78	70.11
Singapore Dollar	50.67	50.92
Candian Dollar	51.84	52.09
Malaysian Ringgit	16.64	16.74

Source: Indian Bank

BULLION RATES CHENNAI

June 07 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses

Retail Silver (1g)	40.1	(39.6)
22 ct gold (1g)	3123	(3097)

# RBI revises stressed asset resolution norms

## Introduces 'review period' of 30 days to recognise default

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

After the Supreme Court struck down the controversial February 12, 2018 circular of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on stressed asset resolution, the banking regulator on Friday released revised set of norms which are substantially less stringent from the previous one.

In particular, neither there is a mandate to start resolution which results in higher provisioning if there is a single day default nor a mandate for initiating insolvency proceeding if resolution plan is not implemented for large accounts within a time frame. However, the RBI has sought to nudge banks towards the insolvency courts by introducing a disincentive in the form of additional provisions for delayed resolution.

At the same time, the central bank said it would issue directions to banks for initiation of insolvency proceedings against borrowers for specific defaults 'so that the momentum towards effective resolution remains uncompromised.'

The new circular asked lenders to undertake a prima facie review of the borrower account within 30 days from a default, which is termed as "review period."

During this review period, lenders may decide on the resolution strategy, including the nature of the resolution plan (RP), the approach for implementation of the RP etc.

### Legal proceedings

"The lenders may also choose to initiate legal proceedings for insolvency or recovery," the circular, which comes into effect immediately, said.

### Old order changeth

- Lenders to undertake prima facie review of borrower account within 30 days of default
- All lenders to enter into inter-creditor pact for implementing resolution plan
- Resolution plan to be implemented within 180 days from end of review period



- Disincentive for banks if they delay implementing viable resolution plan
- Lenders may choose to initiate legal proceedings for insolvency or recovery

If the RP is to be implemented, lenders have been asked to enter into an inter-creditor agreement (ICA), within the review period, to provide for ground rules for finalisation and implementation of the RP.

"The ICA shall provide that any decision agreed by lenders representing 75% by value of total outstanding credit facilities (fund-based as well as non-fund based) and 60% of lenders by number shall be binding upon all the lenders," the circular said. The RP will have to be implemented within 180 days from the end of review period, RBI said.

The review period shall commence not later than the date of the this circular for loans above ₹2000 crore; January 1, 2020 for loans above ₹1,500 crore to ₹2,000 crore.

For loans less than ₹1,500 crore, the reference date would be announced later.

There is a disincentive for banks if they delay implementing a viable resolution plan. In case the plan is not implemented within 180 days from the end of review period, banks have to make additional provision of 20%

and another 15% if the plan is not implemented within 365 days from the start of the review period.

The additional provisions would be reversed if resolution is pursued under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).

Half of the additional provisions could be reversed on filing of insolvency application and the remaining additional provisions may be reversed once case is admitted for insolvency proceedings.

"Incentives to reverse 50% of these provisions upon reference under IBC will incentivise lenders to refer such stressed cases to IBC for faster resolution," says Karthik Srinivasan, group head, financial sector ratings ICRA, who thinks the overall framework is positive and will continue to incentivise banks for accelerated resolution of stressed assets.

Debt recast tools like corporate debt restructuring scheme and strategic debt restructuring scheme are withdrawn. Apart from banks, these new norms are also applicable for non-banking financial companies, small finance banks and other financial institutions.

# SEBI, MCA sign pact for more data scrutiny

## MoU to enable seamless sharing of data to carry out investigation, prosecution

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to facilitate seamless sharing of data and information for carrying out scrutiny, inspection, investigation and prosecution.

This assumes significance as the MCA has the database of all registered firms while SEBI only regulates listed entities that may have unlisted subsidiaries, with the MCA having access to all the data of such unlisted entities.

### 'Backdrop of frauds'

"The MoU comes in the wake of increasing need for surveillance in the context of corporate frauds affecting important sectors of the economy. As the private sector plays an increasingly vital role in economic growth, the need for a robust corporate governance mechanism becomes the need of the hour," said a statement issued by the SEBI on Friday.

Incidentally, there is already a protocol of sharing



Target in sight: A steering group will meet periodically to review the data exchange status. • GETTY IMAGES/STOCK

of data between the capital markets regulator Ministry and, in many cases, the regulator has also sent its orders against various entities to the MCA for further action. According to the SEBI statement, the MoU will facilitate the sharing of data and information between

the regulator and the MCA on an automatic and regular basis, while enabling sharing of specific information such as details of suspended companies, delisted firms, shareholding pattern from the SEBI and financial statements filed with the Registrar by corporates, returns of allotment of shares and audit reports relating to corporates. The MoU will ensure that both the MCA and the SEBI have seamless linkage for regulatory purposes and in addition to regular exchange of data, the two will also exchange with each other, on request, any available information for scrutiny, inspection, investigation and prosecution.

A Data Exchange Steering Group will meet periodically to review the data exchange status.

# RBI raps Kotak bank for veil over promoter data

## Fines private sector lender ₹2 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Amid a legal battle between Kotak Mahindra Bank and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) over the former's promoter stake dilution, the central bank has now slapped a penalty of ₹2 crore on the private sector lender for not disclosing information on promoter shareholding.

"The bank was directed by the RBI to furnish information about details of the shareholding held by its promoters and to submit details of the proposed course of action/plans/strategy of the bank for complying with the permitted timeline for dilution of promoter shareholding," the banking regulator said.

"Subsequently, the bank was directed to convey its commitment to achieve the dilution as per the timelines stipulated. However, the bank failed to comply with the said directions and a notice was issued to the bank advising it to show cause as to why penalty should not be imposed for non-compliance with the said directions," it added.

Last year, the lender moved the Bombay High Court after RBI rejected its bid to reduce promoter shareholding by issuing preference shares. The bank was supposed to lower promoter stake to 20%, from about 30%, by Dec 31, 2018 and to 15% by March 31, 2020. The court is yet to pronounce its judgment on the issue.

# DHFL repays over ₹350 crore to investors

## Includes ₹100 cr. repayment for CPs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Mortgage lender Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. has paid over ₹350 crore to different investors, including ₹100 crore to investors of commercial paper (CP). The CP was due for repayment on Friday.

DHFL sources said some interest payments have also been made to investors of non-convertible debentures (NCDs), which were due earlier this week, but were delayed.

The company still had seven working days to make the payment to avoid default. DHFL, which is facing cash crunch after bank loans became expensive, is selling loans to other lenders to generate resources.

Meanwhile, UTI Mutual Fund on Friday said it had written off its entire exposure to the securities of DHFL.

"UTI MF anticipates that there would be enhanced pressure and legal action on DHFL from all creditors, including exercise of early redemption clause and legal options by various lenders. This is expected to further delay the recovery efforts of the company in disposal of its assets in an orderly manner," UTI MF said in a release.

The fund house said it has "increased the markdown to DHFL debt securities from 75% to 100% in the schemes which has an exposure to DHFL." (With PTI inputs)

# Goyal seeks \$25 bn credit for exports

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Friday that the RBI had been asked to extend \$25 billion (₹1,73,150 crore) line of credit (LoC) for exports and ensure that exporters get funds at interest rates not exceeding 2% above LIBOR.

The Minister was speaking at a meeting to link in to the issues pertaining to export credit sector.

"Goyal put forth the proposal to make credit in foreign currency available to exporters at London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus maximum 200 basis points and directed RBI, ECGC and other banks to work out the modalities to make it possible," a commerce ministry statement said.

# 'International airlines can be given Jet's foreign traffic rights'

## Till now, domestic carriers have been earmarked the rights

JAGRITI CHANDRA NEW DELHI

International airlines should be given Jet Airways' foreign traffic rights, if domestic carriers do not have planes to deploy on international routes, Minister of State for Civil Aviation Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday.

The statement comes at a time when the Ministry of Civil Aviation has constituted a committee to re-allocate Jet Airways' foreign traffic rights to various airlines. The position of the government so far is that these were 'earmarked' for domestic carriers.

The shutdown of Jet Airways, which had the largest market share among all Indian airlines on foreign routes and second largest



Hardeep Singh Puri

domestically, has led to a sharp rise in airfares.

"I personally believe that we should not be restrictive in terms of number of flights, etc. because if you have the capacity domestically utilise it, otherwise don't deprive ourselves of

the economic opportunity. Because, I think if you have more players, prices come down," Mr. Puri said at an event.

### Capacity challenge

Indian airlines are faced with the challenge of ramping up capacity for acquiring Jet Airways slots at domestic airports, while there is also a huge opportunity in terms of availability of the beleaguered airline's foreign rights.

The Minister, however, added that he was just expressing his opinion on the matter. Traffic rights refer to seats allocated by a country to its airlines for operating to another country as per their bilateral air service agreement.

# With Jet out of skies, sector may fly into profit

## CAPA flips estimate from loss-making scenario to \$500-\$700 mn profit for FY20

LALATENDU MISHRA MUMBAI

The exit of Jet Airways from the civil aviation scene has changed the outlook of the airline sector from negative to positive, according to an aviation consulting firm.

In its latest forecast, the Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation (CAPA) revised its FY20 profitability outlook from a consolidated loss of \$550-\$700 million to a profit of \$500-\$700 million for the sector.

"India's leading airlines are expected to report record profits, while Air India could break even at a net level. Low cost carriers are likely to report a combined profit of \$500-\$700 million, of which IndiGo alone could account for \$400-\$500 million," CAPA said in its Q1 Outlook. It said while SpiceJet and



GoAir will make profit, AirAsia India and Vistara could be close to break-even for the first time since they launched operations over five years ago.

### AI may break even

Air India could break-even (or have a small loss) at a net level for the first time in over a decade, it added.

"The above projections are assuming oil at \$70-\$75/

barrel and the U.S. dollar trading at ₹70-72, and are subject to airlines maintaining pricing discipline," CAPA said.

Most of the domestic capacity lost as a result of Jet's closure would be restored by the end of the Q2.

"Domestic traffic growth will be muted, with full-year traffic growth expected to be below 5% year-on-year. This will largely be as a result of growth picking up from Q3, with traffic expanding by 5-8% in the second half.

The high double-digit growth rates observed during the last five years are unlikely to return for the foreseeable future," it said.

International traffic is likely to be flat at best, and could show a slight decline of up to 5%. Growth is expected to resume from FY21. "Jet's closure leaves a notable gap in

the international market. As a result Indian carriers will increase their focus overseas. Indian LCCs are expected to deploy 40 additional narrow bodies (planes) on regional international routes in FY2020," it said.

Prior to operations being impacted, Jet Airways accounted for 13.8% of domestic and 12.3% of international seats across India.

For the international sectors, Jet had a market share of 28.5% from Mumbai and 14.5% from the Delhi airport.

So, with Jet out of the picture, the trunk route of Delhi and Mumbai had seen a capacity drop of 23% while eight international routes had seen double-digit growth as Jet was a dominant player in these sectors.

In the Mumbai-London sector, Jet had a market share of 57.3%.

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Note: Attach Latest DAF with Resume.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that Mr. Gajen Jain S/o Lt. Shri D K Jain is purchasing House No KB-73, Kavi Nagar, Ghaziabad (UP) from Shri Kamal Kumar Kapur S/o Lt. Shri Moti Lal Kapur R/o C-5, B-03, Vinay Kunj, Chandrika Nagar, Sagra, Varanasi (UP). If any body is having any objection regarding this purchase he/she may Contact within 15 days of this notice.

Gajen Jain KB-156,Kavi Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P., Mob.: 9810408293

### PUBLIC NOTICE

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Transfer of ownership in respect of constructed/unconstructed Property/Plot No. 2047, Sector-9, Urban Estate Faridabad consequent upon the intestate death of allottee/Co-allottee Smt. Harjas Preet Garg W/o Shri Anand Prakash Garg who was the allottee/Co-allottee of the subject cited property as per record has/died on 10.08.2018 and has/had no registered or unregistered will, leaving behind following legal heirs:

1. Anand Prakash Garg Husband 79 yrs
  2. Ashutosh Garg Son 55 yrs
  3. Atul Garg Son 53 yrs
  4. Hitashi Khullar Daughter 51 yrs
- Sh. Anand Prakash Garg S/o Lt. Sh. Hans Raj Garg R/o 2047, Sector-9, Faridabad intends/ intend to apply for the transfer of the said property in his/her/favour being the legal heirs and request for re-allotment in the names(s) of Sh. Anand Prakash Garg S/o Lt. Sh. Hans Raj Garg.

If any person is having any objection against the transfer of ibid plot/house, he/she can submit objections in writing to the Estate Officer, HUDA, Faridabad, along with supporting documents within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, otherwise the Estate Officer may accord permission to transfer/re-allotment of the said property as per HUDA policy and may not entertain subsequent claim, if any, on behalf of Estate Officer HUDA

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) has issued a letters of intent for setting up of CNG Stations at the site located at following locations and to be operated by following operator having received such application from operator and conducting due diligence and following due process.

### Name of Applicant-

M/s Choudhary Gas Station  
Address of Proposed Station - Khasra No. 85/14, 15/1 Opposite Sukriti World School Village - Khera, Khurd, Tehsil-Narela, District - North West, Delhi-110082

However, IF ANY person has any objection or claim regarding the setting up of cng station at the said site, kindly contact us within 7 days from the publication of this notice with the relevant and appropriate proof to substantiate the objection /claim, failing which it shall be deemed that there is no objection / Claim for the setting of cng station at the said site.

Contact us: IGL Bhawan, Plot No. 4, Community Center, R.K. Puram, Sector-9, New Delhi - 110022.  
Pavneet Singh Batra GM(BD & Projects) Ph: 011- 46074607

### TENDERS

### For Sale/Auction: Transformer

Copper Winding Scrap 25 MPA Quantity- 11967 Kgs (Copper) & Other, Lying at M/s Raychem RPG, Gate No. 426/2B, Chakan- Talegaon Road, Mahalunge Village, Taluka Khed Dist: Pune-410501 Contact Person at site: Mr. Ranjit- 8879202272, Last Date For Inspection & EMD Deposit -16.06.2019 & Date of eAuction-17.06.2019 (3 PM), Auctioneer: Mr. Sidharth Nigam-9625739880 (Insurance claim material will be sold on 'As Is Where Is', 'Whatever There Is' and 'No Complaint' basis)

For more details: www.SalvageManagers.com support@salvagemanagers.com

### LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE PRL.DISTRICT JUDGE, R.R DIST, AT LB NAGAR, HYDERABAD, T. STATE. MVOP NO. 181 OF 2018

BETWEEN: N.Rajugoud, S/o Shankar Goud, R/o Flat No.209,Sri Ganjanana Residency, NCL North, Kompally, Medchal District. ...Petitioner.

AND 1.M/s.Aganwal Packers & Movers Ltd, Rep.by its MD, 2.Satish Kumar,S/o SH.Sukhbir, Occur; Driver, Both are at Plot No.1, Agawal Movers Group, WEDDING SOUK SHARADA NIKETAN, SARASWATI VIHAR PITAMPURA, PITAMOURA, NOETHE WEST DELHI, DELHI-110034. ... Respondent.

Whereas the Petitioner above named filed the MVOP against above respondent for compensation claim from them for the accident and the case is posted to 19/06 /2019 and therefore respondents are directed to appear before the above court either in person or through your pleader with your defense if any at 10.30 AM on the above said date, failing which the above petition will be heard and determined ex-parte. /BY ORDER OF THE HON'BLE COURT// J.VENKAT RAM REDDY, ADVOCATE Flat No.301,Venusvilla Apts., Srilaxminagar, LB Nagar, Hyderabad-48 Mobile: 9849702358 Counsel for the Plaintiffs

### PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE is hereby given that Share Certificate No(s) 248144 for 200 share bearing distinctive No(s) 5593161-360 (both inclusive) of GET & D Limited having its Registered Office at: A-19, First Floor, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase 2, New Delhi-110025, registered in the names(s) of Suresh Chandra Gupta and Raj Kumari Gupta have been lost.

I, Sangeeta Jain W/o Late Sh. Avadhesh Kumar Jain R/o H. No. 420, Jain street, C/No Market, Espland Road, Delhi-110006, declares that I am an equal co-owner in the said property for any queries or information regarding the said property contact me directly 91-9654955953.

Re FRESHED NOW THE HINDU



IN BRIEF



**ITC to open super luxury hotel in Kolkata**

KOLKATA  
ITC will inaugurate its second super luxury hotel, ITC Royal Bengal, next week. The launch will be done by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. This property has come up beside ITC Sonar with the two hotels connected by a walkway. The new hotel has 374 rooms and suites and 82 serviced apartments, according to a sales pitch launch for the property. The new hotel in Kolkata is a part of ITC's expansion plans.

**'Student housing gets \$100 mn investment'**

NEW DELHI  
The student housing market received an investment of \$100 million last year, but the sector has the potential to attract \$50 billion to meet the demand-supply gap of 8 million beds, said property consultant Knight Frank. "The purpose-built student accommodation market in India is in infancy, despite the country boasting one of the largest populations of undergraduate students in the world," it added. PTI

**Germany's Refu, Bharat Forge in JV for EV parts**

NEW DELHI  
Auto components major Bharat Forge on Friday said it has formed a joint venture with Germany's Refu Elektronik GmbH for the development and manufacture of electric vehicle (EV) components with an investment of €11.35 million (about ₹89 crore). The JV will be into developing, manufacturing and selling of on-board controllers and components, Bharat Forge said. PTI

# Paint sector sees demand boost

Softer raw materials prices may help raise margins, says Indian Paint Association

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOLKATA

The two Cabinet committees set up by the new government at the Centre to give impetus to employment and growth are expected to boost the Indian paint industry, said Abhijit Roy, the outgoing chairman of the Indian Paint Association.

"The outlook is good and margins too may improve this year on account of softer raw material prices," Mr. Roy said at a press meet.

"While employment growth will boost demand, economic growth has a direct impact on the paint industry," he added.

**Value, volume growth**  
During 2018-19, the paint industry grew 15% by value and 12% by volume. However, margins came under



The Centre's actions to spur jobs, growth will give an impetus to the paint industry, says Abhijit Roy. ■ASHOKE CHAKRABARTY

pressure due to high oil prices and the rupee volatility.

Mr. Roy said that while there was scope for optimism in the decorative and protective paints segment, there was some concern about the automotive paint sector in the first half of the financial year. "We are hop-

ing [for] second half recovery for the automobile [paint] industry," he said. The organised sector paint industry accounts for 70% of the ₹50,000-crore industry, while the rest is accounted for by the unorganised segment. Earlier at a public session, Dipankar

Chakrabarti, executive director - technology optimisation lead, PwC, said that the industry needed to understand the importance of adopting a digital strategy beyond hosting a website and an app.

**'62% rise in profitability'**  
"If you are innovative with your process, production and manpower, then it is possible to enhance your profitability by around 62%," Mr. Chakrabarti said.

Commander Manoj Kr Gupta (retired) of Garden Reach Shipbuilders Ltd. said that there was a sustained demand for paints for warships as the Navy was expanding its fleet.

# Roca unveils cPVC pipes in Chennai

To roll out product in southern States and later, nationally

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI

Spanish sanitaryware maker Roca is targeting to capture 30% market share for cPVC (chlorinated polyvinyl chloride) pipes in Tamil Nadu, said a top official.

"We introduced the Parvare cPVC pipes for household plumbing pipe offerings in Madurai and Thoothukudi areas during December 2018," said K.E. Ranganathan, MD, Roca Bathroom Products.

"Initially, the response was poor as we had offered only four stock-keeping units (SKUs) as part of bathroom solutions. Based on the feedback, we doubled the number of SKUs and the sales picked up. Today, we have orders booked for the



K.E. Ranganathan

full year," Mr. Ranganathan said.

**Garners 10% share**

In the last four months, Roca garnered 10% market share in Madurai. This was followed by introducing the product in Tiruchirapalli and Coimbatore.

On Friday, Roca launched cPVC pipes in Chennai. "Chennai market accounts for ₹150 crore. We aim to garner 30% of it (about ₹50 crore) in two years. This will be followed by entry into other southern States and rolling it out nationally," he said.

On investments, he said since manufacturing was outsourced, the investment was not significant.

During 2018, Roca clocked a revenue of ₹1,100 crore and this year, it hopes to touch ₹1,300 crore.

"We have been growing at 20% year-on-year. Going by the growth rate, we might clock ₹650 crore in the first six months of the current calendar year," Mr. Ranganathan said.

# Promoters sell 14% in Indiabulls real estate arm

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Indiabulls Real Estate promoters have sold 14% stake in open market transactions to Embassy Group for ₹950 crore, as part of the group's strategy to focus on financial services and exit from the realty business.

Promoters have around 39% stake in Indiabulls Real Estate, of which 14%, or over 6.3 crore shares, was offloaded in a bulk deal on Friday. Indiabulls Group is looking to exit the real estate business to get regulatory approvals for the proposed merger of Indiabulls Housing Finance with Lakshmi Vilas Bank.

# Nippon Life's open offer for 22.49% stake in RNAM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Nippon Life Company on Friday announced an open offer to acquire nearly 22.49% stake in Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management (RNAM) for ₹3,179 crore under a deal with Reliance Capital which is exiting the mutual fund business.

Nippon will acquire up to 13.82 crore shares of RNAM at ₹230 per share, according to RNAM's draft, filed with the SEBI. The transaction is to be paid for in cash for a consideration of ₹3,179.41 crore. In May, Reliance Capital had said it would exit the mutual fund business, via a stake sale in RNAM to Nippon Life Insurance.

# L&T's open offer for Mindtree from June 17

Infra firm to offer ₹980 per share

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BENGALURU

Infrastructure major Larsen & Toubro's (L&T) open offer to buy shares from individual shareholders of IT firm Mindtree will commence on June 17.

In a stock exchange filing on Friday, the company said the open offer was at ₹980 per share.

The shares of the Bengaluru-based mid-sized IT firm closed at ₹969 apiece on the BSE on Friday.

L&T had offered to buy up to 5.13 crore shares, or 31% stake in Mindtree.

L&T had proposed to buy additional stake in Mindtree through an open offer scheduled between May 14 and May 27. However, it was delayed by three weeks as the

**L&T has been raising stake in Mindtree since buying 21.32% from Siddhartha, CCD**

former was awaiting clearance from the SEBI.

L&T had been steadily increasing its shareholding in Mindtree after it bought 21.32% stake from coffee baron V.G. Siddhartha and Cafe Coffee Day (CCD) in mid-March. Since then, the infrastructure firm had been actively picking up multiple batches of Mindtree shares from the open market to increase its grip on the acquisition target. L&T is eyeing up to 66% stake in Mindtree for about ₹10,800 crore.

# Propose to source more desalinated water, says Sterlite

South Ganga Water Tech supplies water to T.N. plant

K.T. JAGANNATHAN  
CHENNAI

Vedanta Ltd. has proposed to step up the quantum of desalinated water sourced from South Ganga Water Technologies (P) Limited (SGWT) for its Sterlite Copper unit at Thoothukudi.

Thoothukudi has a lone desalination plant, which is operated by SGWT. The unit started with an installed capacity of 3 million litres per day (MLD) in 2013-14 and expanded to 7 MLD.

The unit has been supplying desalinated water to Sterlite Copper since 2013-14. "We aim to significantly increase the quantum of desalinated water sourced from



SGWT," said an official of the company. The Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board (TWAD) is responsible for drawing water from local river sources and allocating it for various applications such as domestic consumption, agriculture, utilities and industries in Thoothukudi region. The entire wa-

ter supply infrastructure is installed and operated by the TWAD board.

Also, Sterlite has a contract with SIPCOT for water supply for industrial consumption. The firm supplies water to all industries within the SIPCOT complex in Thoothukudi. SIPCOT has a water purchase pact with TWAD which enables the former to ensure supply to firms in the area for industrial use. "Although the sanctioned quantity by SIPCOT to Sterlite Copper was 3.5 million gallons per day (MGD), its actual consumption never exceeded 2.5 MGD," the Sterlite official claimed.

**Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences**  
Raibareilly Road, Lucknow - 226014 (U.P.), India  
Phones : 0522-2668004-8, 2668700-900-900 Fax.: 91-0522-2668017, 2668078

**Notice Inviting E-Tender (NIT)**

Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGIMS), Lucknow invites e-tenders in two parts ( Technical Bid and Financial Bid) for 'Empanelment of Chartered Accountant'.  
E-tender document in this regard shall be available on the website 'www.etender.up.nic.in' from 10.06.2019 to 09.07.2019 (upto 5.00 P.M). In addition, this NIT shall also be available for information only on the website of the Institute 'www.sggpgi.ac.in'.  
Advt. No. I / 11 / Contract / 2019-20 DIRECTOR

Office of The Chief Engineer  
Commercial & Survey Wing  
Power Development Department  
SLDC Building Gladni Narwal Bala Jammu  
e-mail : cecsnjm@gmail.com  
"SAVE POWER SAVE NATION"  
**CORRIGENDUM I**

Sub: Establishment of 21 numbers Modern Energy Meter Testing Laboratories at divisional level Kashmir province. Ref: NIT Ref. No.CE/C&S/JMTL/02 of 2019-20 Dt. 18.04.2019 for Kashmir.  
As discussed and deliberated in the pre bid meeting held, various bidders were interested to give presentation regarding latest trends in energy meter testing lab benches for testing of all types of meters including Smart & Pre-paid Meters as per latest IS in vogue.  
Bidders, who wish to participate in the Presentation, are requested to deliver a detailed presentation of their "Meter Testing Lab" to JKPPD as per below mentioned schedule:-

Date of Presentation:	14.06.2019
Time:	10.00 AM
Place:	Srinagar, J&K
Address:	Conference Hall in the Office of Chief Engineer, EM & RE, Kashmir (J&K)

Bidders who are interested for presentation are requested to submit their request through e-mail on cecsnjm@gmail.com latest by 12.06.2019.  
Chief Engineer  
Commercial & Survey Wing  
PDD J&K  
DIP /J-949-P

Government of Punjab  
Tender/RFP Reference No. 2887-89D, 03.06.2019  
The Department of Water Supply & Sanitation Division No. 2, Ludhiana  
Invites online bids for Providing bifurcation/augmentation of piped Water Supply Scheme at Village Machhian Khurd, Block Ludhiana-II, District Ludhiana,(Under NABARD RIDF-XX-III).  
Closing Date & Time: 14.06.2019 at 14:00Hours.  
For details log onto: https://proc.punjab.gov.in  
Note: Any corrigendum/s to the Tender/RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only.  
DPR-PB-5067 Chairman GPWSC Machhian Khurd

**JHARKHAND BIJLIVITRAN NIGAM LTD**  
(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001702)  
(Civil Engineering Department)  
Regd. Office: Engineering Building, H.E.C.,  
Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004  
E-mail ID: internetauditjbvnl@gmail.com

**CORRIGENDUM NOTICE**

Please refer to the "Notice for Cancellation of Tender" for appointment of Professional Firms for conducting Internal Audit for FY 2018-19, 2019-20 & 2020-21.  
This is inform that NIT No for the same be read as 257/PR/JBVNL/18-19 in place of 257/PR/JBVNL/17-18  
स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचाव। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को टोल फ्री नं० 1800 345 8570 पर दर्ज कराये।  
PR No. 200400 Sd/-  
Dy. General Manager (F&A)  
Internal Audit & Taxation  
P.R.208167 Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd(19-20)-D

**Government of Jharkhand**  
Deoghar Municipal Corporation, Deoghar

**Short Term e-Procurement Notice Inviting Tender**  
NIT No. 08/2019-20 Date: .....

1	Name & address of office Inviting tender	Municipal Commissioner, Deoghar Municipal Corporation, Deoghar
2	Date of publication of tender on website	06.06.2019 at 11:00AM
3	Last date & Time for receipt of bids	20.06.2019 up to 05:00PM
4	Last date & Time for receipt of hard copy of Bid	21.06.2019 up to 05:00 PM
5	Date & Time of Bid Opening	22.06.2019 at 11:00 AM
6	Contact no. of Procurement officer	Municipal Commissioner, Deoghar Municipal Corporation, Deoghar .
7	Help line number of e-Procurement cell	Land Line - 06432-232786

Sl. No.	Tender Reference No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in Rs.)	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender (Rs.)	Time Period
1	DNN/01/08/2019-20	Operation and Maintenance of 28 MLD WTP at Darawa Ajay river with civil and Mechanical establishment man power, repairing and changing of civil and mechanical parts , as per turn key basis of 28 MLD WTP, Gang way Pump house pattardih, Nawadhi, Baswadhi and Darwa WTP and Ajay river and clear water from WTP mass balanced reservoir repair and Maintenance on turn key basis of Deoghar Urban water supply scheme for the year 2019-20	4,63,08,633.00	2% of BOQ Amount	25,000.00	12 Months

Note :- 1. Only e-Tenders will be accepted. Further details can be seen on website http://jharkhandtender.s.gov.in/udhd.jharkhand.gov.in  
2. Estimated cost/ quantity may be increased or decreased, as per actual Sanction of Estimate.  
3. Well equipped and financially strong contractor/Company may take part in this e-tender. They must be registered in Urban Development and Housing Department Jharkhand Govt. in appropriate class.  
4. Tenderers having completed similar nature of work satisfactorily may be given priority. रू०/-  
5. e-tender will be in Two envelop system. One Technical Bid and Second Financial Bid  
PR 208055 (Deoghar)19-20#D देवघर नगर निगम, देवघर

**GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND**  
Office of Executive Engineer  
D. W. & S. Swarnrekha Headworks Division, Ranchi

**Very Short urgent e-Procurement Notice**  
Short-e Tender reference no- DWSD/ Headworks -01 /2019-20 Dated 06-06-2019

Sl.	Name of the Work	Name of Work:- Renovation of filter bed No. 1,3,7,19 & 20 with changing of old system in installation of "V" wire under drain system of five nos. Filter Bed of Rukka Filter Plant under R/M to Swarnrekha Water Supply Scheme.
1	Estimated Cost	Rs. 2,25,37,868.00 (Rs Two Crore Twenty Five Lakh Thirty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Eight) only
2	Earnest Money	Rs. 4,51,000.00 (Rs Four Lakh Fifty One Thousand) only
3	Cost of BOQ	Rs. 10,000.00 (Rs Ten Thousand ) only
4	Time of Completion	02 (Two) Months
5	Date of publication of Tender on Web site	13.06.2019 /03:00 PM
6	Last date /Time for receipt of Bid	20.06.2019 / 05:00 PM
7	Last date for received of EMD/cost of B.O.Q	21.06.2019 / 05:00 PM
8	Date of opening of Tender	22.06.2019 / 04:00 PM
9	Name & address of office inviting tender	Executive Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Swarnrekha Headworks Division, Ranchi
10	Name & address of Opening officer	Superintending Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Urban Circle, Ranchi
11	Contact no of Procurement office	07903832615
12	Helpline no of e-procurement cell	0651-2480345

**NOTE:-** निविदा की राशि घट या बढ़ सकती है।  
**NOTE:-** बैंक ड्राफ्ट कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता स्वर्णरेखा शीर्ष कार्य प्रमण्डल, रांची के नाम से निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि / तिथि के बाद का अद्यतन बना होना चाहिये जो रांची में भुगतयेय(Payable) हो तथा बैंक ड्राफ्ट SBI, Ranchi Branch (Code- 00167) के द्वारा निगत नहीं होना चाहिये।  
Further details can be seen on website  
http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in Executive Engineer  
Drinking Water & Sanitation Swarnrekha Headworks Division, Ranchi  
PR 208096 (Drinking Water and Sanitation)19-20'D

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THE HINDU GROUP



# Hitman shows he is good at the waiting game too

It's time for the other Indian batsmen to join the party, following the sound start provided by Rohit



K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR  
LONDON

Cast in the blue shade, Rohit Sharma seems a different persona. His luminous talent was never in doubt but the same potential was never fully harnessed in Tests.

But throw him into an ODI, allow a fast bowler to steam in or a spinner to amble down and just watch Rohit transform. There is assurance in his gait and a nonchalance to the way he plays his strokes all over the park. It is no surprise that he has lorded over the format and has even struck three double hundreds!

## Second skin

Dominance is his obvious second skin but, on Wednesday as India buckled down to chase South Africa's 227 at the Hampshire Bowl in

Southampton, the opener revealed that he does possess patience too in abundance.

The pursuit wasn't easy, the rival fast bowlers were probing around off-stump and Kagiso Rabada and Chris Morris used the bouncer to telling effect. Rohit played and missed a few, tried to hook some and edged but, importantly for India, he stayed at the crease. This wasn't about being a pretty picture, it was all about lasting the course.

The result was an outstanding 122 spread over 144 deliveries, and studded with 13 fours and two sixes. This seemed more like a Test hundred in the way it was constructed and it turned out to be a match-winning effort during which he shared partnerships ranging from the small to the significantly larger ones with diverse partners like Virat Kohli, K.L. Rahul and M.S. Dhoni.

Rohit kept the scoreboard ticking over, and when the opportunity presented itself, clattered his fours and the odd six.

Though he was watchful, never was he bogged down and that kept the required



**New dimension:** The zen monk-like version of Rohit Sharma did the job for India in its opener against the Proteas. ■ AP

run-rate under check.

There was game-awareness and fierce focus, and an excited Kohli later termed it as Rohit's finest ever ODI

hundred. "I think in my opinion this is by far his best ODI innings because of the kind of pressure the first game brings from a World Cup

point of view.

"And then I know, as a batsman, when you go in and a few balls bounce like that, it's not easy to gather yourself

again and play in a calm manner. A lot of times batsmen tend to hit their way out of the situation. But he was very composed," Kohli said.

## Rain mars practice

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
LONDON

The Indian team woke up to a wet Friday at London.

The rain, largely a persistent drizzle, continued unabated well into the afternoon before the sun peeped out at 2.30 p.m. The inclement

weather threw a spanner into the squad's plans to train at the Oval and, consequently, the scheduled practice session in the morning was cancelled.

India will take on Australia here on Sunday but rains have been forecast for the weekend.

Rohit, who first turned out for India in 2007, is among the squad's senior professionals and his ton against the Proteas will help India step in with an extra zing in the games ahead. It is a good trend to nurse especially for a batsman who was not picked for the 2011 World Cup squad and had to subsequently fight his way back into the unit.

He is also part of a feared opening combine with Shikhar Dhawan.

The latter too needs to click and once this duo prospers in the first PowerPlay, India will have a base to launch into a huge score or

commence a fruitful chase.

Importantly, the pressure on Kohli, the batsman, will diminish if the rest of the cast contribute handsomely.

Rohit has made a start and it is time for the others to join the party.

Finally, the hit-man has shown that there is joy too in the forward-defensive shot even in the nerve-jangling arena of ODIs.

Rohit the sixth-gear enforcer is a known entity. But this zen monk-like version of his can also be of equal service when the pitches display some life and the bowlers smell a wicket. India will not complain.

## Pakistan, Sri Lanka split points after wash out

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
BRISTOL

Pakistan captain Sarfaraz Ahmed was left frustrated after Friday's World Cup match against Sri Lanka was abandoned without a ball being bowled following persistent rain in Bristol.

The game was eventually called off in the afternoon, with both teams being awarded a point.

It is the first match at the World Cup in England and Wales to be abandoned without a result.

Both teams now have three points, with one win and a loss apiece.

After a couple of inspections, umpires Nigel Long and Ian Gould decided to call off the game at 3:46 p.m. local time.

The sky was still cloudy when the final inspection was held, keeping in mind a 20-over-a-side game.

It was a blow to Pakistan's bid to reach the semifinals and Sarfaraz said: "As a team we really wanted to play this match, especially after gaining momentum with the win against England. It is unfortunate that we were not able to play.

"Our next match is against



**Dull sight:** Persistent rain ensured that the Pakistan-Sri Lanka match was a non-starter. ■ AFP

Australia. Like other teams in the tournament they are also a tough opponent and they also have momentum as they have won their first two matches."

Pakistan lost to the West

Indies by seven wickets at Trent Bridge before beating England by 14 runs at the same venue on Monday.

Sri Lanka crashed to a 10-wicket defeat against New Zealand before pulling off a

34-run win against Afghanistan in a rain-affected game.

Sarfaraz remains confident Pakistan can still push for a last-four place in the 10-team tournament despite the Sri Lanka washout.

## Next assignment

**SRI LANKA:** June 11 vs Bangladesh, Bristol, 3 p.m.  
**PAKISTAN:** June 12 vs Australia, Taunton, 3 p.m.

## Brathwaite questions umpiring decisions

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
NOTTINGHAM

Carlos Brathwaite said the West Indies were on the wrong end of too much poor umpiring following a 15-run World Cup defeat by champion Australia as Michael Holding slammed an "atrocious" display by the match officials.

West Indies opener Chris Gayle and captain Jason Holder were both twice given out on the field at Trent Bridge on Thursday but, on both sets of occasions, saw their decision to review vin-



Carlos Brathwaite ■ AFP

dictated by the third umpire.

The side's mood was not helped when standing umpire Chris Gaffaney missed a Mitchell Starc no-ball the delivery before the left-arm

quick dismissed Gayle for 21. Brathwaite accepted Gaffaney and Sri Lanka's Ruchira Palliyaguruge were doing their best, but he made no attempt to hide his annoyance after the West Indies fell short chasing a target of 289 in Nottingham.

"I don't know if I'll be fined for saying it but I just think that the umpiring was a bit frustrating," Brathwaite told reporters.

"Even when we were bowling we thought a few balls close to head height were called wides.

"And obviously three decisions...as far as I can remember being dodgy, it was frustrating and sent ripples through the dressing room," the all-rounder added.

"To lose Chris in a chase of 280, who can probably get 180 of them himself obviously, broke the start that we wanted to have. But the umpires do their job, they try to do it to the best of their ability, we as players go out there to do our job as well, so there was no confrontation between the players and the umpires."

## Where they stand

Team	Mat	Won	Lost	NR	PTS	NRR
New Zealand	2	2	0	0	4	2.279
Australia	2	2	0	0	4	1.059
Sri Lanka	3	1	1	1	3	-1.517
Pakistan	3	1	1	1	3	-2.412
West Indies	2	1	1	0	2	2.054
England	2	1	1	0	2	0.900
India	1	1	0	0	2	0.302
Bangladesh	2	1	1	0	2	0.008
South Africa	3	0	3	0	0	-0.952
Afghanistan	2	0	2	0	0	-1.264

\*till the Pakistan-Sri Lanka match on June 7

## England keen to be back on track

Won't panic, says captain Morgan ahead of Bangladesh clash

### PREVIEWS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
CARDIFF

Eoin Morgan says England will not panic as it attempts to get its World Cup campaign back on track against Bangladesh following its chastening defeat against Pakistan.

The hosts started its bid to win its first-ever World Cup with a comprehensive 104-run victory against South Africa before it stumbled in the second game, losing by 14 runs.

Captain Morgan said En-

gland would not change their aggressive approach in Saturday's match in Cardiff.

England's tactics have been based on fearless attacking from their powerful batsmen and they are also aggressive as a bowling unit, boasting the pace of Jofra Archer and Mark Wood.

"All we talked about is sticking to what we do well, looking at our strengths," he said in his pre-match press conference in the Welsh capital on Friday.

"Previous to the tournament starting we talked about losing games - how would we react? What would

THE FACE-OFF						
England vs Bangladesh						
CARDIFF						
HEAD-TO-HEAD						
	MORGAN	MATCHES	Eng	Ban	Tied	NR
Overall		20	16	4	0	0
World Cup		3	1	2	0	0

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1, 2 (SD & HD), 3 P.M.

we counter that with? "Everything comes back to focusing on ourselves, how we win games of cricket and get the best out of ourselves."

England rotated its attack at Trent Bridge, bringing in

Mark Wood for Liam Plunkett. Conditions are expected to be more seamer-friendly in Wales, meaning Plunkett could return in place of a spinner.

"We'll see another day where the wicket is under covers," Morgan said. "The pitches here have been a bit greener and more seamer-friendly so that's a potential (option), yeah."

Bangladesh, which has beaten England at the past two World Cups, is in a similar position to England, having followed a win over South Africa with a loss to New Zealand

"It is going to be a difficult game, they're a good side. I think people underestimate them but we certainly don't," Morgan said.

"Their senior players especially have played a lot of games, more so than our senior players. They are a threat but hopefully we can play well and overcome it."

## Kiwis ready to counter Afghan spin: Taylor

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
TAUNTON

Ross Taylor insists New Zealand is ready for a trial by spin against Afghanistan on Saturday as it looks to keep its winning momentum going in the World Cup.

New Zealand, which was finalist in the 2015 edition, has relied on its paceman to get favourable results, but Taylor believes tackling spin will be key against the Asian minnows at Taunton.

## Lot of spin

"I think against Afghanistan, they have a lot of spin there, so something to factor in," said Taylor, who has recorded three 40 plus scores in his last four ODI innings.

"But two from two, that was what we wanted to do and we were able to do it."

Taylor believes that Ferguson, with his express pace, is the key man for the Black Caps. "Lockie, he just gives you that X-factor. Obviously our fastest bowler.

"He is going to be a key

factor for us if we're going to feature in this tournament," said Taylor. "I think he's creating pressure for the guy at the other end (to take wickets)," he added.

Afghanistan, which is playing just its second 50-over World Cup, has lost its two games in the tournament so far but without a fight.

Leg-spinner Rashid Khan leads the charge with Mohammed Nabi, who returned figures of 4-30 with his off spin in their previous loss against Sri Lanka.

But it's the batting that has let them down as they were dismissed for 152 in their revised chase of 187 in a rain-hit game Cardiff on Tuesday.

## Shahzad out of WC

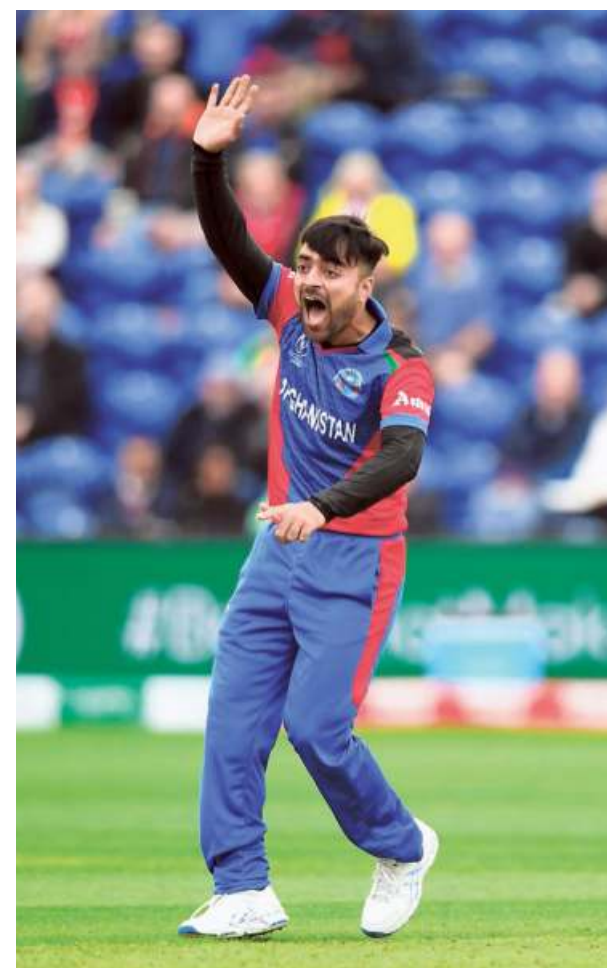
Wicketkeeper-batsman Shahzad was ruled out on Thursday after suffering a recurrence of a nagging knee injury.

Naib admitted losing Mohammad Shahzad for the

rest of the World Cup is a major blow to his side's hopes of upsetting the odds in the tournament.

"Obviously it's a big loss for our side," Naib said on

Friday. "Shahzad is a great player for Afghanistan. He did a lot. I'm also upset for him -- the last two, three weeks he's been struggling with his knee.



**Main threat:** New Zealand has to thwart Rashid Khan & Co. in order to come up trumps. ■ ALEX DAVIDSON/GETTY IMAGES

THE FACE-OFF						
Afghanistan vs New Zealand						
TAUNTON						
HEAD-TO-HEAD						
	NAIB	MATCHES	Afg	NZ	Tied	NR
Overall		1	0	1	0	0
World Cup		1	0	1	0	0

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 3, 6 P.M.



**Key strength:** England captain Eoin Morgan said his team's tactics have been based on attacking batting and aggressive bowling. ■ GARETH COPELY/GETTY IMAGES



# Nadal's masterclass too good for Federer

Defending champion hands out the Swiss his worst Grand Slam defeat in 11 years; Djokovic-Thiem match suspended

## ROLAND GARROS

**REUTERS**  
PARIS  
Before this French Open semifinal match-up it had been all about the dizzying numbers and statistics, but once great foes Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal stepped on to Court Philippe Chatrier, all that mattered was both men's preternatural ability to strike a small yellow ball.

On Friday, it was Nadal's swinging, looping, whip-crack style which prevailed over Federer's finesse and near-perfect timing as he reached his 12th Roland Garros final 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

The Spaniard had never lost to Federer in their five previous French Open meetings, but hadn't beaten the Swiss in their last five matches overall, a run stretching back five years.

Something had to give. But for all the anticipation, in the event it was Federer's winning streak that gave way with no little brutality.

**Suiting his style**  
Simply put, the swirling, gusty winds inside Court Philippe Chatrier far better suited the Spaniard's style which has more safety built in, his heavily top-spun shots clearing the net by some distance, and it resulted in his most



**Thriving on attack:** Rafael Nadal's swinging, looping, whip-crack style prevailed over Federer's finesse and near-perfect timing in the much-anticipated last-four clash on Friday. •REUTERS

one-sided Grand Slam triumph over Federer since beating him 6-1, 6-3, 6-0 here in 2008. "I don't find any sparring partners... playing like Federer. There are no two people like Federer on this planet. Luckily, actually," Nadal said.

"It's incredible, congratulations to Roger... incredible to play at that level aged 37.

He's probably the best player in history, it's a great pleasure to play with him."

The wind barely dropped all match with both players buffeted throughout, and rubbing grit from their eyes from time to time.

**The wind factor**  
While the conditions were tough for both men, as Fe-

derer wistfully reflected, the gusts probably knocked the wind out of his game more than Nadal's.

"It was incredibly windy," Federer said. "So you're trying to see how much can you do or can you not do? Are you playing flatter or with more spin?"

"Are you keeping the ball in play? Are you going for

stuff? I think that was basically the story of the first set, more or less.

"Holding serve against the wind with Rafa's quality on the return is just really hard, you know? He barely misses any. And then when he's in the rally, he plays with great spin on the forehand, great sort of control on the backhand side.

## THE RESULTS

**Semifinals: Men:** 2-Rafael Nadal (Esp) bt 3-Roger Federer (Sui) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.  
**Women:** 8-Ashleigh Barty (Aus) bt Amanda Anisimova (USA) 6-7 (4), 6-3, 6-3; Marketa Vondrousova (Cze) bt 26-Johanna Konta (GBR) 7-5, 7-6(2).

Nadal	MATCH STATS	Federer
3	Aces	3
1	Double faults	1
72	1st serve (%)	59
6/16	Break points	2/4
9/20	Net points won	17/35
33	Winners	25
19	Unforced errors	34
102	Total points	79
193	Fastest serve kmph	197

"So it's just really hard to find holes, especially in the wind, if you're trying to hit through the ball, which is really difficult, actually."

Later, top seed Novak Djokovic's semifinal clash with Dominic Thiem was halted for the day in the third set due to deteriorating weather conditions.

The Austrian fourth seed was leading 6-2, 3-6, 3-1 against the World No.1 when the players left the court.



**Thrilled:** Marketa Vondrousova's straight set win over Johanna Konta has made her the first teen in a Paris final since Ana Ivanovic in 2007. •AP

# Barty to take on Vondrousova for the crown

Eighth seed rallies to stop Anisimova, while the teenager edges out Konta

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE**  
PARIS  
Ashleigh Barty and Marketa Vondrousova set-up a Roland Garros final showdown on Friday, shrugging off a sexism row which had seen their semifinals shifted away from the tournament's showpiece court.

Barty reached her first final at the Majors, coming back from a set and 0-3 down to defeat 17-year-old Amanda Anisimova 6-7(4), 6-3, 6-3 in a rollercoaster match.

Czech teenager Marketa Vondrousova also made sure of her place in a maiden final

at the Slams by edging out Britain's Johanna Konta 7-5, 7-6(2).

While Vondrousova is the first teenager in a Paris final since Ana Ivanovic in 2007, eighth seed Barty, 23, is the first Australian in a French Open final since Samantha Stosur finished runner-up in 2010.

**Amazing**  
"That was amazing, both good and bad," said Barty who will rise to the top three in the rankings next week. "It was the hardest thing that I ever had to do.

"I am really proud of the way I fought especially in the conditions which were cold and windy. "Now I can't wait for the final, it's incredible."

Both matches got underway after accusations of sexism were made against the organisers who had decided to shift the matches away from the showpiece Court Philippe Chatrier.

The main arena had already been scheduled to stage the men's semifinals between Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic against Dominic Thiem.

The WTA said the deci-

sion, taken after Wednesday's play was washed out and prompted by fears of more rain Friday, was "unfair and inappropriate". Former World No.1 Amelie Mauresmo of France said it was a "disgrace".

When she steps onto Chatrier on Saturday, it will be Vondrousova's first experience of the arena.

"I watched (compatriot) Lucie Safarova when she played finals there in 2015 when I was junior, but I never played there. So it's going to be something huge," she said.

# India fumbles and stumbles its way past Poland, enters semifinals

## HSF

**UTHRA GANESAN**  
BHUBANESWAR

Just over two months ago, the Indian men's hockey team had thumped Poland 10-0 at the Azlan Shah Cup. On Friday, against the same opponent with largely the same side, the Indians fumbled, and stuttered to a 3-1 win in Pool A at the Hockey Series Finals here.

The unbeaten Indian team is now assured of playing the semifinals. That would be of little comfort to coach Graham Reid, who had warned

against letting the focus drop against a defensive Poland. The opponents lived up to their reputation but the Indians did not.

Friday's match was all about erratic passes, wayward shooting and messed up defence. The first warning sign came within 30 seconds of the start, Poland earning a penalty corner but unable to convert, much to India's relief.

**Resolute defence**  
Given the resolute defending it did, an early lead might well have led Poland to park

the bus in its half.

As it happened, the Indians found it difficult to break past the Polish defence even otherwise.

And when they did, they came up against Maciej Pacanowski, the Polish goalkeeper who staved off half a dozen chances including two back-to-back shots from Simranjeet Singh and Akashdeep Singh.

India could also manage to convert only one of its five penalty corners and the forwards - Gursahibjit Singh, Akashdeep, Mandeep and Simranjeet - just could not

manage to get their shot angles right. Ramandeep, playing more of a feeder, managed to set them up repeatedly, only to see the ball rolling away before Manpreet Singh managed to lob in a rebound after Harmanpreet Singh's attempt.

Poland stepped up to attack and Mateusz Hulboj made no mistake in tapping in the rising ball to level scores. Hardik Singh was the culprit and Krishan Pathak completely blinded and out of position.

The Indians managed to stick to their structure better

in the second half but the basic errors in trapping and passing continued to haunt the side.

**Need to regroup**  
If improvement and process are the focus for Reid going ahead, the Indian team would do well to regroup sooner than later.

Japan or South Africa - the likely opponents in the semifinals and the final - would be tougher.

In another Pool A match, Russia seemed to come out keen to avenge its drubbing against India and slammed 12

goals against a hapless Uzbekistan. Khakimboy Khakimov scored the lone consolation goal for the minnows. Pool B saw Asian champion Japan stretched by Mexico before prevailing 3-1.

**The results: Pool A:** Russia 12 (Semen Matkovskiy 5, Alexander Skipersky 2, Sergey Lepeshkin, Alexey Sobolevskiy, Mikhail Proskuriakov, Marat Khairullin, Denis Starianko) bt Uzbekistan 1 (Khakimboy Khakimov); India 3 (Manpreet Singh 2, Harmanpreet Singh) bt Poland 1 (Mateusz Hulboj).

**Pool B:** Japan 3 (Hirota Zenda 2, Shota Yamada) bt Mexico 1 (Erik Hernandez).

# Easy to get carried away, says Gill

math of India's victory in the 2018 U-19 World Cup, there was predictably a clamour to fast-track Gill and Prithvi Shaw - two of the tournament's stars - into the senior team. But Gill says his focus has always been on the present.

"You have to be patient. You don't get picked after one good performance. You have to keep doing it season after season. I'm well aware of the fact that not everyone who does well at U19 level is guaranteed to do well at the senior level."

It is easy, Gill admits, to get carried away by all the fame and attention. "How much time does it take to lose your way? It takes years to develop good habits and only a fraction of a second to go off-track. Credit goes to my parents for how they have brought me up. It's easy to get off-balance, but you have to keep working hard," he says.

Last season, Gill aggregated 728 runs for Punjab in the Ranji Trophy, with a top score of 268 against Tamil Nadu. He is hungry for big runs in first-class cricket, he states.

"When I was growing up, I used to score big hundreds in multi-day cricket at the U-14 and 16 levels. I want to do that continuously in the Ranji Trophy. If you're not doing well in First Class cricket, I don't think you'll get picked for India."

Earlier this year, when Shubman Gill joined up with the Indian senior team in New Zealand, Virat Kohli was asked what he thought of the teenager. "Shubman is a very exciting talent," he said. "I saw him bat in the nets and I was like, wow I was not even 10 per cent of that when I was 19."

Gill smiles when reminded of the Indian captain's praise for him. "It makes you feel really good but I think he was being very generous, really kind with his words," he says, on the eve of India-A's second one-day match against Sri Lanka-A at the KSCA Stadium here.

Gill endured a difficult senior debut on that New Zealand tour, making scores of nine and seven in the two ODIs he played. But that call-up, as a short-term replacement for K.L. Rahul, was a sign that he was in the selectors' thoughts.

"It was a great feeling to represent the country," he says. "I wasn't expecting the call but I had had a good Ranji Trophy season, so I wasn't really surprised. Conditions were different (in New Zealand) but it was not as if the bowling was something I hadn't faced before. Because of the A tours and the IPL, that margin has decreased."

In the immediate after-

# Gopalaswami to oversee BCCI elections

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
MUMBAI

Former Chief Election Commissioner, N. Gopalaswami, will be the electoral officer for the BCCI elections to be held on October 22, according to decision taken by CoA on Friday.

"He comes with great experience and we decided to hand over the responsibility to him to ensure a proper election process," one of the members of the Board said.

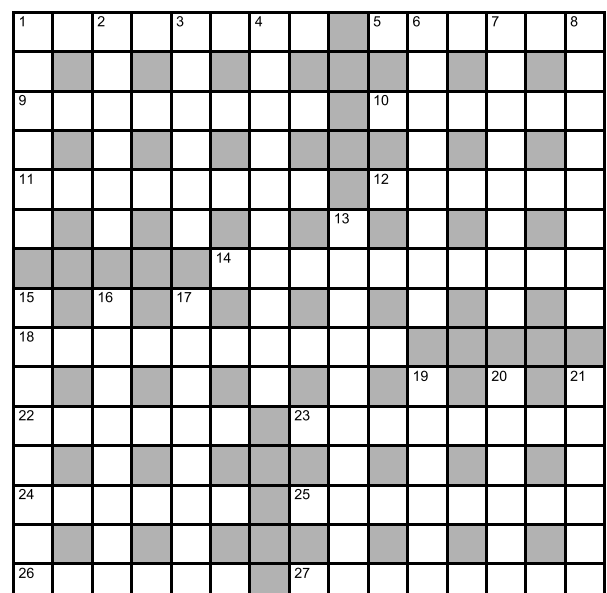
The process will begin on June 30, with the electoral officer preparing an protocol in consultation with the CoA, which shall be communicated to all State associations.

**The schedule:**  
**Sept. 14:** Completion of elections of State associations.  
**Sept. 30:** Preparation of the electoral roll of nominees qualified for the BCCI elections.  
**Oct. 22:** BCCI election.



**Silence please:** Captain Manpreet Singh gestures towards the crowd after scoring the second goal. •BISWARANJAN ROUT

## THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12647



(set by Vulcan)

- 12 Get together and drink with basically money at stake (4,2)
- 14 Poorly adapting, an endangered species (5,5)
- 18 Version of the altered stationery (10)
- 22 Consider empty gallery at first for dance (6)
- 23 Downpour, it's blinding (8)
- 24 Thin layer over a creature (6)
- 25 Wife is primarily happy with lean needs (4,4)
- 26 Striving hard (6)
- 27 Appear smaller, say, and continuous (8)
- 3 Business is about principles (6)
- 4 Go with fresh information (5,5)
- 6 Deceive and invite scorn (8)
- 7 Work done by this guy at the start of day when required (2,6)
- 8 The one turnaround for actor (8)
- 13 Straight to a matinee with each person following the other (3,2,1,4)
- 15 Infamous tirade after slump (8)
- 16 Infinity in entirety originally (8)
- 17 Prevent/stop deluge (8)
- 19 Penetrate large territory that's endless (6)
- 20 Dog perhaps domesticated by an American in exile (6)
- 21 Data about university's rank (6)

- ACROSS**
- 1 City in Asia, not good surprisingly (8)
- 5 Perform with cat? (3,3)
- 9 Climber edgy, then has gotten flexible (8)
- 10 A day before game, extremely nervous (2,4)
- 11 Nagging desire to have fish (8)
- DOWN**
- 1 Farewell performance no good (2,4)
- 2 Piece of music that's more unemotional (6)

## SUDOKU



**Solution to puzzle 12646**

M	A	S	T	I	C	A	S	T	E	R	N		
C	H	A	D	P	O	W	E	R	B	O	A	T	S
O	L	O	I	I	T	I							
D	U	R	E	S	S	U	B	T	R	A	C	T	
T	H	E	T	E	O	E							
E	S	T	U	A	R	I	E	S	S	P	A	S	M
A	B	I	N	D	A	I	T	E	S				
A	B	I	D	E	L	A	U	R	E	A	T	E	S
T	O	U	S	R	E	F	E	R	E	L	L		
S	T	I	L	E	T	T	O	S	A	L	L	O	
H	A	R	U	I	T	E	P						
R	E	S	T	R	A	I	N	E	D	E	E	D	
R	E	Y	O	U	T	E	R						
S	A	D	I	S	T	D	E	P	O	T	S		

**Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**

3	2	9	6	4	1	5	8	7
5	6	4	8	2	7	9	1	3
8	1	7	5	3	9	2	4	6
2	4	8	1	9	3	7	6	5
7	9	6	2	5	8	1	3	4
1	5	3	4	7	6	8	9	2
9	7	1	3	6	5	4	2	8
6	8	2	7	1	4	3	5	9
4	3	5	9	8	2	6	7	1

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

## FAITH

### Acharya's importance

Hanuman's entry scene in the Ramayana is significant, because it has an important message for us, said Akkarakkani Srinidhi in a discourse. Rama and Lakshmana arrive on the banks of the river Pampa. Sugreeva is watching the brothers, and the sight of Rama and Lakshmana fills him with dread. He is afraid that they lack good intentions. The agitated monkey king tells his ministers that the two men must have been sent by Vali, and that their simple garments must have been chosen to deceive Sugriva into thinking they were harmless. Sugreeva and the other monkeys jumped from one peak to another, looking down at Rama and Lakshmana in fear. Hanuman's first words to Sugriva, and indeed his first words in the Ramayana, are words of assurance: "Do not be afraid." Hanuman says that Sugriva is safe on Mount Malaya, which Vali dare not approach because of a curse. "Where is Vali? I do not see him anywhere. Why do you fear him?" asks Hanuman.

Hanuman also offers advice to Sugriva and says that a ruler must be wise. An unwise ruler will never be able to offer good governance. But Sugriva is not convinced and says, "The two men are armed. Overconfidence is dangerous." He then asks Hanuman to go and check if the two men who have arrived are trustworthy or if they are men sent by Vali. Hanuman goes to meet them as an ascetic.

Hanuman tells Rama and Lakshmana that their garments proclaim that they are ascetics, but they look like royalty and also wield bows. Rama is able to gauge from Hanuman's mode of speech that the latter is a great Vedic scholar. Thus, it was because Hanuman met Rama first that Sugriva was able to make friends with Him later on. This shows the importance of the Acharya in guiding us to the Supreme One.



TV PICKS

**NBA:** Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 6.30 a.m.  
**Kings Cup:** India vs Thailand, 5S Select 2 (SD & HD), 2 p.m.  
**ICC World Cup:** Star Sports 1 & 2 (SD & HD), 3 p.m.; Star Sports 3, 6 p.m.  
**Roland Garros:** 5S Select 1 & 2 (SD & HD), 6.30 p.m.  
**FIFA U-20 World Cup:** Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 9 p.m.  
**FIFA Women's World Cup:** Sony Six (SD & HD), 9.30 p.m.  
**Euro 2020 Qualifiers:** Sony ESPN (SD & HD), 9.30 p.m. Ten 1 (SD & HD), 12.30 a.m. (Sunday).

India to tour NZ early next year

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA WELLINGTON**  
India will travel to New Zealand early next year for a tour which will begin with a five-match Twenty20 series and conclude with a two-Test series.  
The T20I series will begin from January 24 and will be followed by a three-match ODI series. The two Test matches will be played in Wellington (February 21 to 25) and Christchurch (Feb 29 to March 4).

Consecutive losses for Anand

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA STAVANGER (NORWAY)**  
Viswanthan Anand slipped to the bottom of the points table after going down to Shakhriyar Mamedyarov of Azerbaijan in the second round of the Altibox Norway Chess tournament here.  
**The results (second round):** Shakhriyar Mamedyarov 3.5 bt V. Anand (1.5-0.5); Magnus Carlsen (3) bt Levon Aronian (2); Fabioano Caruana (2) bt Maxime Vachier Lagrave (0.5); Yu Yangyi, (3) bt Ding Liren (2); Wesley So (2) bt Alexander Grischuk (1).

Gaurika jumps into lead

**SPORTS REPORTER BENGALURU**  
A five-under 67 third round pushed Gaurika Bishnoi to the top of the leaderboard of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour 2019 - Leg 7, at Clover Greens near here. Gaurika holds a three-shot lead over second-placed Pranavi Urs. Gursimar Badwal, who held a four-shot lead overnight, slipped to tied-third after a three-over 75.  
**The scores (top-three):** 208: Gaurika Bishnoi (71, 70, 67), 211: Pranavi Urs (76, 69, 66); 212: Tvesa Malik (74, 70, 68), Amandeep Drall (71, 71, 70), Gursimar Badwal (71, 66, 75).

RACING

Saint Petersburg primed to deliver

**BENGALURU:** Saint Petersburg, who has been well prepared is expected to score in the Civil Service Cup (1,200m), the main event of the races to be held here on Saturday (June 8). False rails (width about 8.5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.  
**1. ROYAL CHALLENGE PLATE (DIV. 1), (1,400m),** rated 30 to 50, 4-y-o & over, 2-30 pm: 1. Charmed Life (4) Trevor 60, 2. Pink Smile (7) Raghuvver Singh 59.5, 3. Orenda (3) Sandesh 58, 4. Supernormal (2) R. Marshall 58, 5. Bluejack (6) A. Merchant 57.5, 6. Gold Mist (8) S. Mubarak 56.5, 7. Ultimate Speed (5) Adarsh 56.5 and 8. Turf Jaguar (1) Hindu Singh 55.  
**1. ORENDA, 2. CHARMED LIFE, 3. BLUEJACK**  
**2. PRINCE KHARTOUM TROPHY (1,200m),** maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3-05: 1. Akasi (4) Zervan 56, 2. Blackhawk (9) P. Mani 56, 3. Commodus (1) Trevor 56, 4. Elite Agent (10) Irvan 56, 5. On The Trot (8) Neeraj 56, 6. Richmond Hill (3) R. Manish 56, 7. Slice Of Heaven (5) Darshan 56, 8. Tenno Sho (-) (-) 56, 9. Awesome Girl (7) A. Merchant 54.5, 10. Constanza (6) Sandesh 54.5 and 11. Donna Bella (2) Suraj 54.5.  
**1. DONNA BELLA, 2. CONSTANZA, 3. COMMODOUS**  
**3. STAR SUPREME PLATE (1,400m),** rated 15 to 35, 5-y-o & over, 3-40: 1. Jayadratha (12) N.S. Parmar 60, 2. Ultimate Power (7) Darshan 57.5, 3. Amazing Angel (6) Nazrul 55, 4. Agnar (9) P. Surya 54.5, 5. Fiorenzo (3) S. Shareef 54.5, 6. Firing Line (11) A.S. Peter 54, 7. Incitatus (4) Suraj 54, 8. Blarney Stone (2) A. Ramu 53.5, 9. Declarationoflove (1) R. Manish 53.5, 10. Granada (5) N.B.

'Main goal is a top-eight finish in Asian C'ship'

Mihailovic focused on getting the unit ready for Asian men's championship

VOLLEYBALL

**ASHWIN ACHAL BENGALURU**  
Newly-appointed Indian men's volleyball team coach Dragan Mihailovic is focused on getting the unit ready for the crucial Asian men's volleyball championship, which will be held in Iran in September.  
"Our main goal is to get a top-eight finish in the Asian Championship. A top-eight finish will secure a spot for us in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic qualification tournament. That is very important," Mihailovic told *The Hindu* here.  
The vastly-experienced Mihailovic, who has won several medals as an assistant coach with the former Yugoslavia national team, and with several top European clubs, stated that the team desperately needs match practice.  
"It's very important to play lots of games against top teams. We plan to compete in a tournament in Ukraine (end



**Task cut out:** Dragan Mihailovic is impressed with India's talent pool, but believes the team desperately needs match practice. \*K. MURALI KUMAR

August), followed by matches against three very strong Turkish professional clubs in Ankara.  
"We are awaiting the government's consent for these plans," Mihailovic said.  
The Serbian, who has been appointed for a period of five months, is impressed with India's talent pool, but there are

certain tough challenges ahead. From the two or three training sessions I've had with the boys, I've noticed that their biggest drawback is a lack of tactical knowledge.  
"This is because they haven't got the chance to play many tournaments outside India. They are not in touch with how international vol-

leyball has developed in the last 20 years.  
"Statistics, video analysis, scouting and so on - these aspects are lacking here.  
"But the federation has recruited a top scout from Europe, which will be of huge help," he said.  
Mihailovic will be also assisted by Pryemyslaw Gas-

zyoski and Vladimir Rado-sevic, who will don the roles of team physio and physiotherapist respectively.  
**Boost to the sport**  
Mihailovic has been appointed to the post by the Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) - a unique move that the Volleyball Federation of India (VFI) has hailed as a boost to the sport in the coun-

try. The FIVB, VFI and I are working towards a common goal. There are thousands of young guys in India who want to play volleyball.  
"They have the exact body constitution required to play volleyball, and they are desperately waiting for a chance to maximise their potential in order to explode on the world stage. I am sure that this can be achieved," Mihailovic said.

India in main draw

The Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) has confirmed that India has secured a spot in the main draw of the Asian Men's Volleyball Championship.  
India was originally scheduled to compete in an Central Asia qualification tournament involving Sri Lanka and Turkmenistan, with the top two sides making the

cut. In an email exchange with *The Hindu*, AVC explained that Turkmenistan flouted competition regulations and was thus barred from competing in the qualification tournament. This has allowed India and Sri Lanka to seal spots in the Asian championship without the necessity of holding a qualification tournament.

Prabhu Arunagiri clinches pole

MRF INMRC getting bigger by the year

MOTORSPORTS

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT COIMBATORE**  
The season's opening round of the MRF MMSCI FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship (INMRC) began at the Kari Motor Speedway with the practise sessions and qualifiers here on Friday.  
Prabhu Arunagiri of Team Alisha Abdullah clinched pole position in the premium Pro-Stock 301-400cc class. He timed 1:09.241s in his very second lap, while the TVS Racing duo of Jagan Kumar (01:09.269) and K.Y. Ahamed (01:09.270) completed the front row of the

grid for Saturday's race.  
Jagan also underlined his class topping the practice session in the Pro-Stock 165cc class with a flying lap of 01:13:529s.  
**Record entries**  
The two wheeler events are getting bigger every year. The MRF MoGrip Supercross opener a couple of weeks ago in this part of the region saw a record turnout. So is the case with the INMRC. With 178 entries and a record 15 teams in fray, it is the highest-ever in the championship's history.  
The two-day event features 17 races and the National championship will be

headed by the Pro-Stock 301-400cc class, besides Pro-Stock 165cc, Pro-Stock 201-300cc and Stock 165cc (novice and girls).  
There will also be the one-make championships by Honda (Idemitsu Honda Talent Cup, CBR 150) and TVS Racing (Apache RTR 310 Open, RTR 200 Novice and Girls) run concurrently.  
Honda and TVS have contributed hugely to the National championship with their respective one-make series. This season, in a landmark move, Honda will be introducing FIM Moto3 spec NSF250R that will replace the CBR 250 in their one-make championship from

the next round.  
It is part of the Honda India Talent Cup programme designed to unearth young talent that can be groomed for participation in various international events, including the World Championship.  
The Honda Novice class (CBR 150) will see a grid of 15 riders, all under 19 years of age. TVS Racing has also shortlisted riders, through its talent spotting programme, for novice and girls' class.  
The grid for the girls will witness 16 riders, who were picked from 33 entrants who received training from TVS Racing's experienced stars.

Netherlands outclasses England

NATIONS CUP

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE GUIMARAES**  
England's long wait for a trophy since 1966 goes on as the Netherlands set up a Nations League final meeting with Portugal on Sunday with a 3-1 win after extra-time in Guimaraes.  
Marcus Rashford's penalty gave the Three Lions a first-half lead against the round of play, but Matthijs de Ligt made amends for his error in leading to the spot-kick to level 17 minutes from time.  
Jesse Lingard thought he

had won the game late on for England only for his strike to be ruled out for off-side by VAR and the Dutch took full advantage of that reprieve to deservedly earn their place in the final.  
England contributed to its own downfall with a comedy of errors for both goals in extra-time with John Stones and Ross Barkley on goal as Kyle Walker's own fault and Quincy Promes's tap in sent Holland into the final.  
**The result:** Netherlands 3 (Matthijs de Ligt 73, Kyle Walker 97 (og), Quincy Promes 114) bt England 1 (Marcus Rashford 32-pen).



**Pouncing on:** Quincy Promes, center, scores the Netherlands' second goal. \*AP

Women's hockey team leaves for Hiroshima

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BHUBANESWAR**  
The day the men's Hockey Series Finals concludes here next Saturday, the Indian women will kickstart their own journey to the Tokyo Olympics with the women's HSF in Hiroshima.  
As the team led by Rani Rampal left for the competition on Friday night, coach Sjoerd Marijne was optimistic about his team but also cautious in his expectations.  
"As the highest ranked team, it's important for us to

win and get 500 ranking points, which will be very important when it comes to the draw for the next round of qualifiers. But we must play consistent to be successful," Marijne said.  
India, ranked ninth in the world, is grouped with Poland, Uruguay and Fiji in Pool A and opens its campaign against the 24th ranked Uruguay. Both finalists advance to the Olympic qualifiers but India would be hoping to finish on a winning note.

"We had three tours before this and they went well, giving us confidence. In between, we were able to work on our fitness and specific skills during camps," Marijne said.  
"We played against different styles so we are prepared on everything. We have also worked on the mental side to grow as a team and as individuals. We worked on stuff like giving feedback to each other, leadership and taking responsibility so that we don't get dis-

tracted or hung up on the end result," he added.  
Japan and Chile, the next highest ranked teams, are in Pool B, along with Mexico and Russia, and Marijne stressed that they could not be underestimated. While Japan is expected to make the final, the pressure would be on India since the former is both host and Asian Games winner and as such already qualified.  
Marijne, though, is hopeful of India's chances of Tokyo participation.

Dharmalingam was a man of vision: Kapil

He was ahead of time in terms of acknowledging the importance of fitness

VIJAY LOKAPALLY NEW DELHI

Renowned cricket coach P.K. Dharmalingam, who passed away recently in Chennai, was described by Kapil Dev as a "man of vision" and someone who was committed to promoting the game selflessly.  
"I got to know of his passing (only) late. I can visualise him at the Chepauk, engaged with young cricketers, working hard to shape their careers.  
He was a familiar figure at our camps in Chennai and to me he was special," Kapil

told *The Hindu* here on Friday.  
Dharmalingam, who played 29 matches for Madras and Services, was among the early coaches to impart training to women cricketers. He was also the first coach for L. Sivaramakrishnan and W.V. Raman at the Grand Prix CC.  
**Disciplined person**  
"I knew him as a very disciplined person. Soft but firm when it came to dealing with the players at camps. His fielding sessions went a long way in helping us become

athletic on the field," Kapil remembered.  
A fitness freak himself, Kapil gave credit to Dharmalingam for helping him with some crucial lessons. "He insisted I look after my fitness.  
"As a fast bowler, bowling long spells, I knew I had to be fit more than others and Mr. Dharmalingam ensured that I picked up the right habits. He would make me run

a lot and I am glad I learnt it early in my career. There was no gym. Running and exercises.  
"He was ahead of time in terms of acknowledging the importance of fitness," Kapil stressed.  
"I know Mr. Dharmalingam was a hard taskmaster. Sometimes you would get the feeling his methods were back-breaking but (they were) always aimed at helping you improve.  
"He was a gentleman and served the game outstandingly," said Kapil.

Identical scores by Gurnihal and Ayush

SHOOTING

**SPORTS BUREAU ORIMATTILA (FINLAND)**  
Gurnihal Singh Garcha and Ayush Rudraraju shot 70 out of 75 in three rounds in junior men's skeet on the opening day of the 11th International Junior Shotgun Cup here on Friday.  
Ayush had two perfect rounds of 25, but tumbled to 20 in the third. Gurnihal, on the other hand, had rounds of 25, 23 and 22.

Abhay Singh Sekhon (67) and Sukdarshana Johal (59) were the other Indian shooters in the fray.  
Richard Klika of Czech Republic and Cristian Ghilli of Italy led with 73, while Peeper Jurisson (71) of Estonia was the only other shooter ahead of the two leading Indian marksmen.  
In junior men's trap, Vishwa Kundu had 70 following rounds of 24, 24 and 22, to be fourth with the third best score behind Matteo Maron-

glu (75) of Italy and Matias Kolvu (73) of Finland.  
Manavaditya Rathore shot 66 to be in 11th place, while Vivan Kapoor, who has secured a call for the men's team for the World Championship, shot 65.  
Two more rounds on Saturday, will be followed by the final for the top six.  
In junior women's trap, Manisha Keer (66), Kirti Gupta (64) and Preeti Rajak (63) were among the top seven behind leaders Luppi

Greta (70), Sofia Littarne (69) and Gala Ragazzini (68) of Italy.  
In junior women's skeet, Areeba Khan and Parinaaz Dhaliwal shot identical scores of 65, to be in the top five behind leaders Giada Longhi (68) of Italy, Zuzana Zaoralova (68) of the Czech Republic and Eva Tamara Reichert (65) of Germany.  
The third Indian shooter in a small field of 11, Mufaddal Deesawala shot 57 to be ahead of two others from Germany and Finland.

West and North Bengal units to merge

Despite the amalgamation, there will be two State championships

TABLE TENNIS

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOLKATA**  
Associations unite but divisions continue in Bengal table tennis  
The two table tennis associations in Bengal - the North and West - resolved to come together and form a unified body like the one existed before 2005 when the bifurcation happened.  
**New entity**  
The new entity will be named the Bengal State Table Tennis Association (BSTTA) which was formally announced here in presence of a Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) observer on Friday.  
Despite the amalgamation, there will be two State championships, with the affiliated units of the erstwhile bodies continuing in the same order.  
"The TTFI, at the behest of the Indian Olympic Association and Ministry of Sports, decided in its last AGM (March 17, 2019) to have one State one association.

"The amalgamation process is a result of that," said Arun Banerjee, the treasurer of TTFI, who oversaw the unification process.  
**Two teams**  
The process failed to totally obliterate the divide as it was decided to have two teams from Bengal in the Nationals with West Bengal contributing in formation of Team-A (four players), while the North Bengal players will represent Team-B (four players).  
"There will be another 16 players from the State who will be selected purely on their current national rankings," said Banerjee.  
The proportionate representation in the newly formed BSTTA will be in the ratio of 70:30 in favour of the bigger West Bengal unit.  
"With Bengal contributing so many players, we have acted in the best interest of the state and ensured that the unification does not curtail the number of players playing the nationals," said TTFI secretary general M.P. Singh

Paras Dahiya clinches title

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GURUGRAM

Paras Dahiya quelled the challenge from Shubham Malhotra 6-2, 4-6, 6-2 in the final of the ₹100,000 AITA ranking men's tennis tournament organised by VAN Sports Club in Balliaawas on Friday.  
In the semifinals, Shubham had fought his way past Rohan Mehra in three sets, while Paras had outplayed Neeraj Elangovan for the loss of two games.  
**The results (final):** Paras Dahiya bt Shubham Malhotra 6-2, 4-6, 6-2; **Semifinals:** Shubham Malhotra bt Rohan Mehra 6-3, 4-6, 7-5; Paras Dahiya bt Neeraj Elangovan 6-1, 6-1.  
**Doubles (final):** Kavin Masilamani & Lohith Aksha Bathrinath bt Shubham Malhotra & Rhythm Malhotra 6-2, 6-2.

Manas in line for a double

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Manas Dhamne outplayed top seed Rushil Khosla and put himself in line for a double crown as he won the doubles title with Arunava Majumder in the boys' section of the Sports Boulevard Asian under-14 tennis tournament here on Friday.  
Manas led 6-2, 5-0 when Rushil retired. In the doubles final, Manas partnered Arunava Majumder to outclass Harsh Fogaat and Samar Malhotra for the loss of four games.  
Arunava also made the singles final by beating Omaansh Chaudhary Saharia 6-3, 7-5.  
In the girls' section, Shruti Ahlawat overcame a tricky start to outclass Chandni Srinivasan 6-3, 6-0. It was Chandni who led 3-0 at the start, even as Shruti lost confidence over the line calls by the chair umpire, called the referee Somnath Manna, only to be told firmly that the umpire was right. Regaining her composure and stepping up her game thereafter, Shruti, hit strong to overwhelm her opponent.  
**The results: Boys (semifinals):** Manas Dhamne bt Rushil Khosla 6-2, 5-0 (retired); Arunava Majumder bt Omaansh Chaudhary Saharia 6-3, 7-5.  
**Doubles (final):** Manas Dhamne & Arunava Majumder bt Harsh Fogaat & Samar Malhotra 6-2, 6-2.  
**Girls (semifinals):** Shruti Ahlawat bt Chandni Srinivasan 6-3, 6-0; Nandini Dixit bt Saumrita Verma 7-5, 6-2.  
**Doubles (final):** Shruti Ahlawat & Anannya Bhatia bt Malshika Kuramu & Chandni Srinivasan 2-6, 6-4, [10-7].





GETTY IMAGES

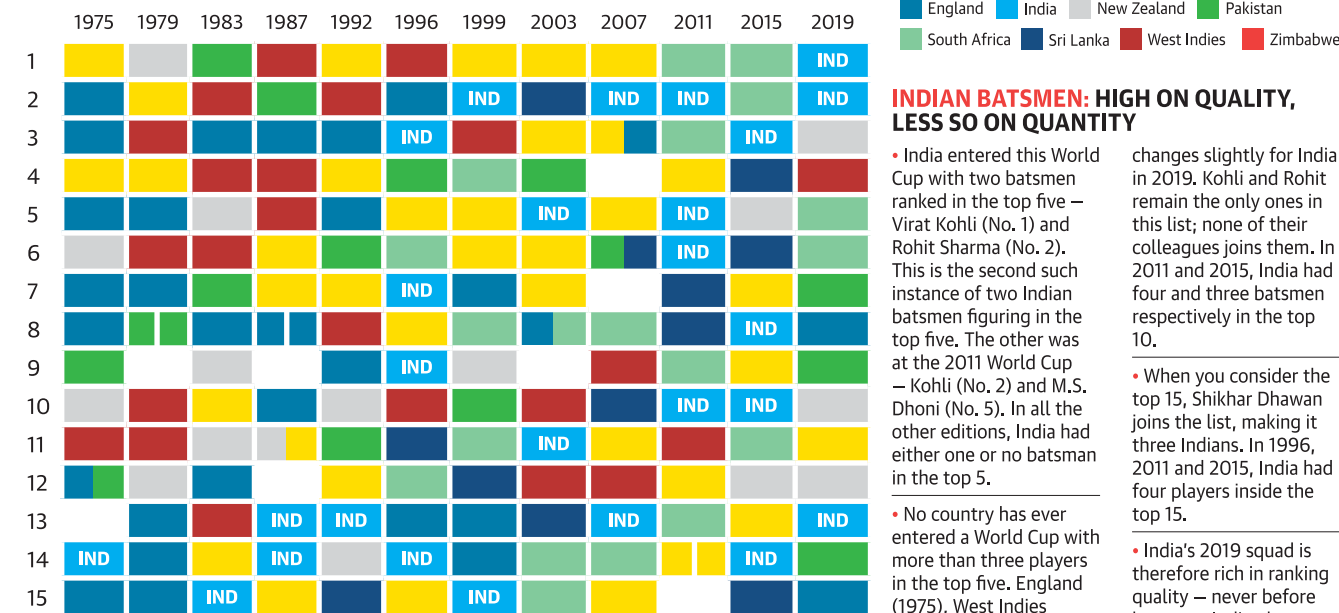
# Just how good are Kohli & Co.?

India is looking to win a third World Cup title in 12 attempts. How does the current squad compare with the Indian sides that have competed in previous editions? And how does it match up against its rivals at the 2019 tournament? Vignesh Radhakrishnan and Sumant Sen find out

## The historical comparison

To compare Kohli's side with Indian teams of the past, we used the ICC's ODI rankings. The tables depict the nationalities of batsmen and bowlers who were in the top 15 before each of the 12 editions of the World Cup. These are colour-coded. For instance, in the batsmen's table, under the 1996 column, the third row is coloured blue to indicate that an Indian batsman was ranked No. 3 heading into the event.

TABLE 1: Nationalities of the top 15 batsmen at each World Cup



### INDIAN BATSMEN: HIGH ON QUALITY, LESS SO ON QUANTITY

India entered this World Cup with two batsmen ranked in the top five — Virat Kohli (No. 1) and Rohit Sharma (No. 2). This is the second such instance of two Indian batsmen figuring in the top five. The other was at the 2011 World Cup — Kohli (No. 2) and M.S. Dhoni (No. 5). In all the other editions, India had either one or no batsman in the top 5.

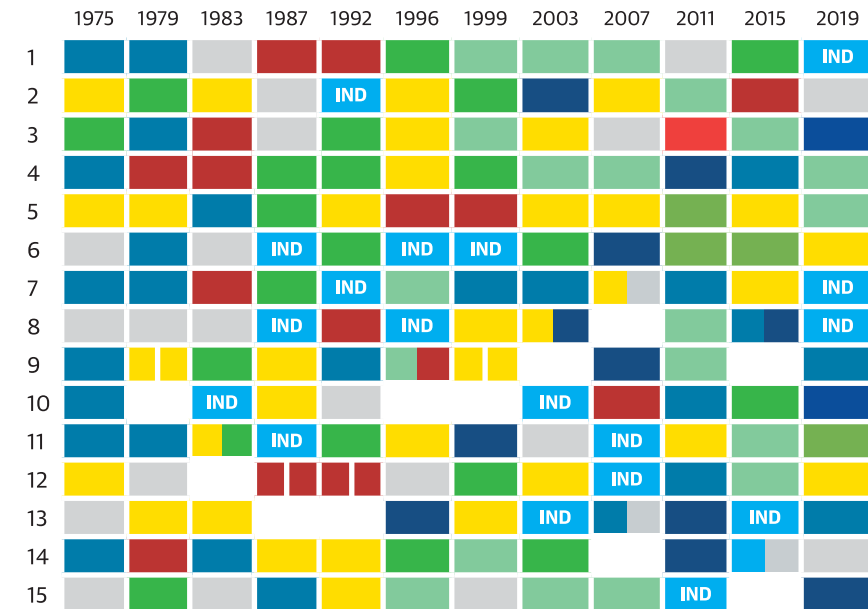
No country has ever entered a World Cup with more than three players in the top five. England (1975), West Indies (1987), and Australia (2007) had three of the five best batsmen.

When the top 10 is considered, the picture changes slightly for India in 2019. Kohli and Rohit remain the only ones in this list; none of their colleagues joins them. In 2011 and 2015, India had four and three batsmen respectively in the top 10.

When you consider the top 15, Shikhar Dhawan joins the list, making it three Indians. In 1996, 2011 and 2015, India had four players inside the top 15.

India's 2019 squad is therefore rich in ranking quality — never before have two Indian batsmen occupied the top two spots. But previous squads have had more players in the top-10 and top-15 mixes.

TABLE 2: Nationalities of the top 15 bowlers at each World Cup



### INDIAN BOWLERS: HIGH ON QUALITY AND QUANTITY

With Jasprit Bumrah topping the bowling charts in 2019, this is the only time India is entering a World Cup with a No 1 bowler in its arsenal.

Only once before has India had a bowler in the top 5 — Kapil Dev (No. 2) in 1992.

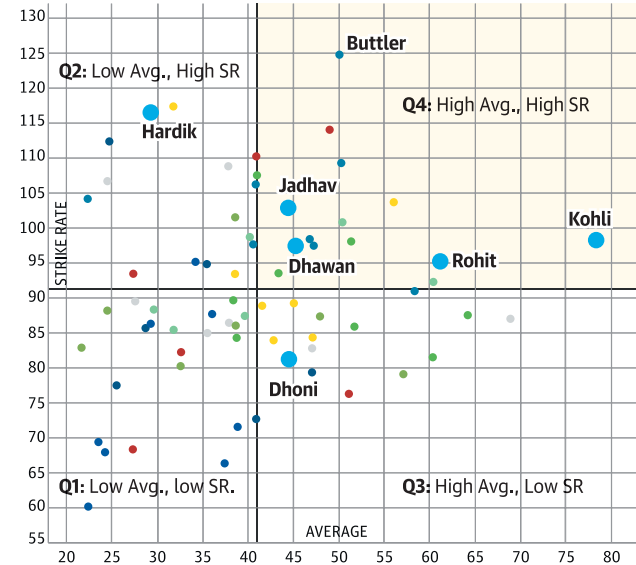
### LAST WORD

The numbers suggest that this is India's best overall squad (with bat and ball) at a World Cup. The key to this is the depth and quality of the bowling, not traditionally an Indian strength.

## India and other contenders in 2019

To compare India's squad with its rivals, we used player records from the end of the 2015 World Cup to the last ODI before the start of the 2019 event. As metrics in this four-year period, we used batting averages (runs per innings) and strike-rates (runs per 100 balls) for batsmen, and strike-rates (balls per wicket) and economy-rates (runs per over) for bowlers. The scatter plots have four quadrants. Quadrant 4 (highlighted) in both plots feature the elite players at this World Cup. Quadrant 1 has those who have been in below-average form in this period.

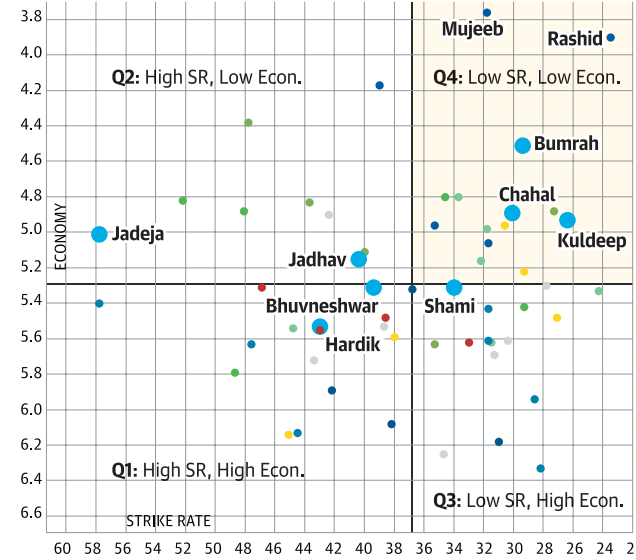
BATSMEN (post 2015 WC to start of 2019 WC)



Four Indians — Kohli, Rohit, Dhawan and Kedar Jadhav — are in the elite quadrant. No one is in Quadrant 1. Dhoni's strike-rate and Hardik Pandya's average have prevented them from featuring among the elite.

SOURCE: ICC, ESPNCRICINFO | MIN. 500 RUNS, 25 WICKETS

BOWLERS (post 2015 WC to start of 2019 WC)



Bumrah, Kuldeep and Chahal feature in the elite quadrant, with Mohammed Shami missing the cut by a small margin. Hardik is in Quadrant 1, while Bhuvneshwar Kumar is between Quadrants 1 and 2.

## WORD PLAY

### English

**What is it?** The term refers to the side-spin put on a cue ball in billiards, pool or snooker by hitting it to the left or right of center. 'English' is not always the player's doing: it can also occur when a ball collides with another ball or with the rail cushion off-center.

**Where does the term come from?** From American players, who saw masterful Brits hitting the cue ball with side-spin and coined the term. That's the popular story, at any rate. The term has travelled well: it's used to describe a basketball spun in off the backboard in the NBA, for example.

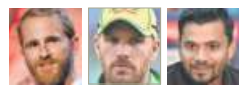


**How is it used?** 'English', when used expertly, controls the position of the cue ball, altering the angle of reflection after it hits another ball or the rail cushion. But the use of 'english' by average players often causes the cue ball to deviate off the aiming line and go askew.

**Not to be confused with** The 'follow' and the 'draw'. In the 'follow', the cue ball is hit above its centre. In the 'draw', it's hit below. So the 'follow' has top-spin and the 'draw' under-spin. Neither, pertinently, has side-spin; so why some confuse it with 'english' is frankly baffling.

## ON THE BOX

## STACKING UP



**World Cup:** SAT: England v Bangladesh, 3 P.M.; STAR SPORTS 1, 2 & HD. Afghanistan v New Zealand, 6 P.M.; STAR SPORTS 3. SUN: India v Australia, 3 P.M.; STAR SPORTS 1, 2 & HD.

**Roland Garros:** SAT: 6.15 P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 1 & HD. SUN: 2.40 P.M. & 6.15 P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 1 & HD.

**Canadian GP:** SAT: Qualifying, 11.15 P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 2 & HD. SUN: Main Race, 11.35 P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 2 & HD.

**NBA:** SAT: Final, Warriors v Raptors, 6.30 A.M.; SONY TEN 1, 3 & HD.

**UEFA Nations League:** SUN: Third place, 6.30 P.M.; SONY TEN 2 & HD.

**FIFA Women's World Cup:** SAT: Germany v China, 6.30 P.M., Spain v South Africa, 9.25 P.M.; SONY SIX & HD. SUN: Australia v Italy, 4.30 P.M., Brazil v Jamaica, 6.30 P.M., England v Scotland, 9.30 P.M.; SONY SIX & HD. Norway v Nigeria, 12.20 A.M.; SONY ESPN & HD.



**ICC Test Rankings**

#	TEAM	M	PTS	RATE
1	India	32	3,631	113
2	New Zealand	23	2,547	111
3	South Africa	27	2,917	108
4	England	35	3,663	105
5	Australia	27	2,640	98
6	Sri Lanka	37	3,462	94
7	Pakistan	27	2,263	84
8	West Indies	29	2,381	82
9	Bangladesh	22	1,438	65
10	Zimbabwe	9	140	16

**ODI Rankings**

#	TEAM	M	PTS	RATE
1	England	43	5,372	125
2	India	47	5,669	121
3	South Africa	39	4,488	115
4	New Zealand	33	3,729	113
5	Australia	40	4,342	109
6	Pakistan	41	3,846	94
7	Bangladesh	35	3,155	90
8	West Indies	39	3,022	77
9	Sri Lanka	43	3,266	76
10	Afghanistan	30	1,864	62

**T20I Rankings**

#	TEAM	M	PTS	RATE
1	Pakistan	26	7,365	283
2	England	16	4,253	266
3	South Africa	16	4,196	262
4	Australia	21	5,471	261
5	India	28	7,273	260
6	New Zealand	16	4,056	254
7	Afghanistan	16	3,849	241
8	Sri Lanka	18	4,093	227
9	West Indies	21	4,747	226
10	Bangladesh	16	3,525	220



**Men's Top Five**

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Kento Momota	24	111,118	18
2	Shi Yuqi	23	90,661	17
3	Viktor Axelsen	25	79,438	15
4	Chou Tien Chen	29	79,118	19
5	Chen Long	30	75,840	17

**Top Indians** ▶ K. Srikanth Rank 9, Sameer Verma Rank 12

**Women's Top Five**

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Tai Tzu Ying	24	96,225	15
2	Chen Yufei	21	90,365	16
3	Nozomi Okuhara	24	90,336	20
4	Akane Yamaguchi	21	86,730	21
5	P.V. Sindhu	23	78,784	18

**India's next best** ▶ Saina Nehwal Rank 9, Mugdha Agrey Rank 66



**F1 Standings**

#	DRIVER	TEAM	POINTS
1	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	137
2	Valtteri Bottas	Mercedes	120
3	Sebastian Vettel	Ferrari	82
4	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	78
5	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	57
6	Pierre Gasly	Red Bull	32
7	Carlos Sainz	McLaren	18
8	Kevin Magnussen	Haas	14
9	Sergio Perez	Racing Point	13
10	Kimi Raikkonen	Alfa Romeo	13
11	Lando Norris	McLaren	12
12	Daniil Kvyat	Toro Rosso	9
13	Daniel Ricciardo	Renault	8
14	Alexander Albon	Toro Rosso	7
15	Nico Hulkenberg	Renault	6
16	Lance Stroll	Racing Point	4
17	Romain Grosjean	Haas	1
18	Antonio Giovinazzi	Alfa Romeo	0
19	George Russell	Williams	0
20	Robert Kubica	Williams	0



**Men's Top Five**

#	PLAYER	EVENTS	POINTS	AVG. PTS.
1	Brooks Koepka	42	459.68	10.94
2	Dustin Johnson	45	488.79	10.86
3	Justin Rose	49	412.71	8.42
4	Rory McIlroy	48	371.91	7.75
5	Tiger Woods	40	299.15	7.48

**Top Indians** ▶ Shubhankar Sharma Rank 172, Gaganjeet Bhullar Rank 177



**ATP Rankings**

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Novak Djokovic	32	12,355	17
2	Rafael Nadal	32	7,945	16
3	Roger Federer	37	5,950	17
4	Dominic Thiem	25	4,685	23
5	Alexander Zverev	22	4,360	23
6	Stefanos Tsitsipas	20	4,080	28
7	Kei Nishikori	29	3,860	23
8	Kevin Anderson	33	3,745	16
9	Juan Martin del Potro	30	3,235	14
10	John Isner	34	2,895	19
11	Karen Khachanov	23	2,800	25
12	Fabio Fognini	32	2,785	24
13	Marin Cilic	30	2,710	19
14	Daniil Medvedev	23	2,625	27
15	Borna Coric	22	2,525	21
16	Nikoloz Basilashvili	27	1,970	28
17	Gael Monfils	32	1,965	20
18	Milos Raonic	28	1,960	20
19	Marco Cecchinato	26	1,840	27
20	Diego Schwartzman	26	1,755	26

**Top Indians** ▶ Aditi Ashok Rank 127, Diksha Dagar Rank 328

**WTA Rankings**

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Naomi Osaka	21	6,486	19
2	Karolina Pliskova	27	5,685	22
3	Simona Halep	27	5,533	16
4	Kiki Bertens	27	5,405	25
5	Angelique Kerber	31	5,095	20
6	Petra Kvitova	29	5,055	21
7	Sloane Stephens	26	4,552	20
8	Ashleigh Barty	23	4,420	18
9	Elina Svitolina	24	3,967	18
10	Serena Williams	37	3,521	12
11	Aryna Sabalenka	21	3,505	26
12	Anastasia Sevastova	29	3,136	25
13	Caroline Wozniacki	28	3,063	18
14	Madison Keys	24	2,965	14
15	Belinda Bencic	22	2,893	27
16	Qiang Wang	27	2,812	22
17	Anett Kontaveit	23	2,565	23
18	Julia Goerges	30	2,520	25
19	Garbine Muguruza	25	2,465	21
20	Elise Mertens	23	2,305	26



# Why the Silver Arrows are now the gold standard

Just six races into this Formula One season, Mercedes is already in pole position for a sixth straight drivers' and constructors' double. What makes the team one of the most successful outfits in the sport's history?



S. DIPAK RAGAV

At the beginning of this Formula One season, the Mercedes juggernaut looked like it could finally be halted. A close-fought 2018 was followed by pre-season testing in Barcelona where Ferrari was genuinely quick. The talk around the paddock and among fans was that the Prancing Horse had a definite spring in its stride.

Instead, ahead of the season's seventh race in Canada this weekend, which rounds out the first third of the calendar, any hopes of a battle for the title appear dead. A record five one-two finishes in a row and one one-three finish have put Mercedes in a position to continue what it has done with unerring regularity since 2014.

## Blast from the past

Indeed, this season is eerily starting to mirror 2014, which kicked off the period of the current regulations. Then, too, Mercedes won the first six races. Even the split is similar: Lewis Hamilton 4, Nico Ros-

berg 2 then; Hamilton 4, Valtteri Bottas 2 now.

2019 is the penultimate year of the current regulations, which started with hybrid engines five years back and featured significant aero changes in 2017 and minor ones this year. There was optimism among the others that, this late in the regulatory cycle, Mercedes could be caught – typically, leaders only make marginal gains during this period; teams tend to bunch together.

Yet, the defending champion has managed again to steal a march over its rivals. The German marquee team is on course for a sixth straight constructors' title, which will equal what Ferrari achieved between 1999 and 2004. And Mercedes could go one better if it also seals the drivers' championship. Ferrari had won five.

So what makes this one of the most successful outfits to have ever raced?

When Mercedes bought a 75.1% stake in Brawn GP – the team that

stunned the world in 2009, winning the championship after nearly closing down when Honda pulled the plug the year before – it had a challenge on its hands.

## Tough start

Despite Michael Schumacher being at the helm, the Silver Arrows' first three seasons (2010-2012) were disappointing – just a win and a handful of podiums at a time when Red Bull Racing was dominating the sport like Mercedes is now.

But off the track, the team made the right moves. It knew it needed the right structures and people in place, and Ross Brawn recruited some of the sport's top technical directors – Bob Bell (previously Renault), Aldo Costa (from Ferrari) and Geoff Willis (previously at Red Bull and HRT). In short, Mercedes hired the galacticos of

the technical side, even if at that time it looked like one too many cooks.

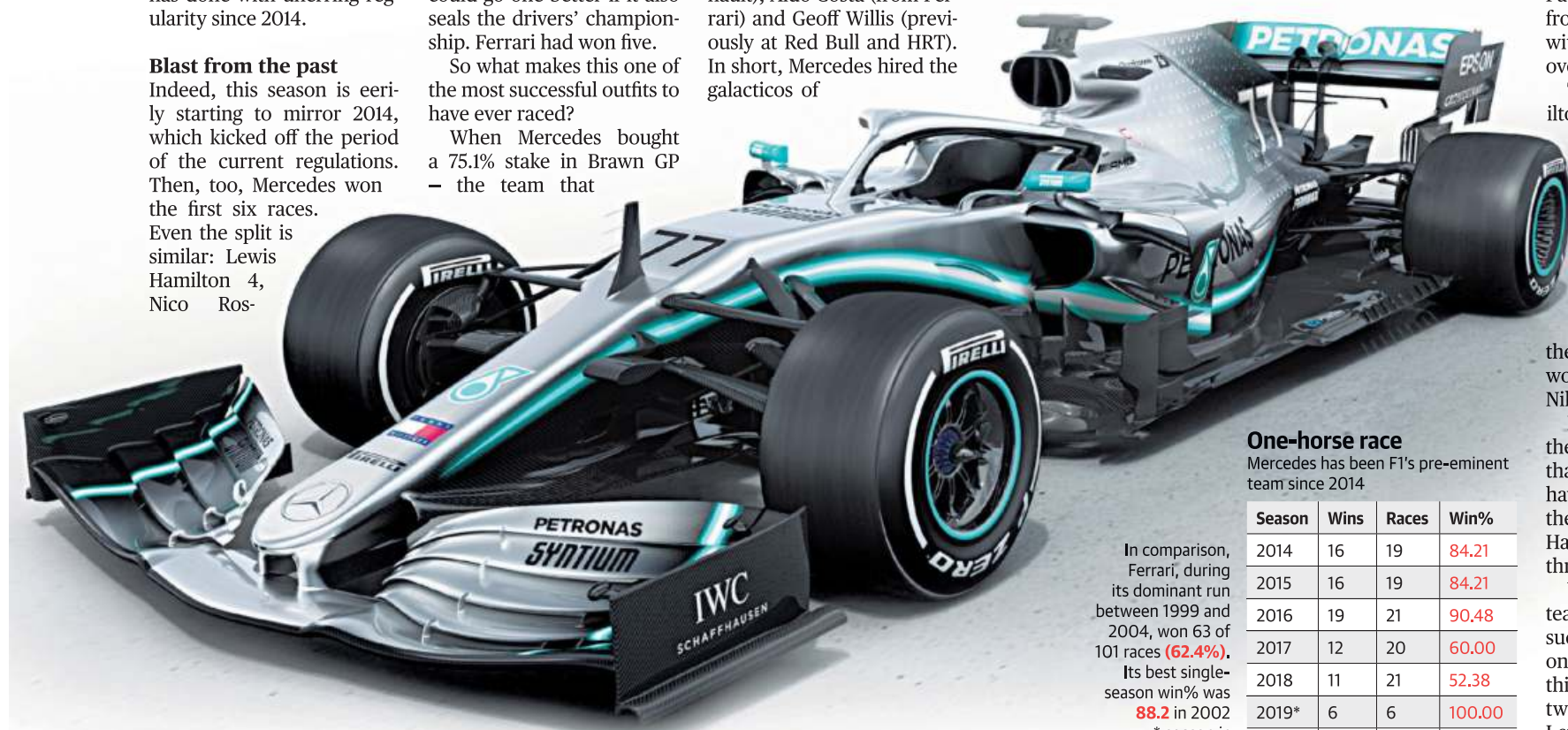
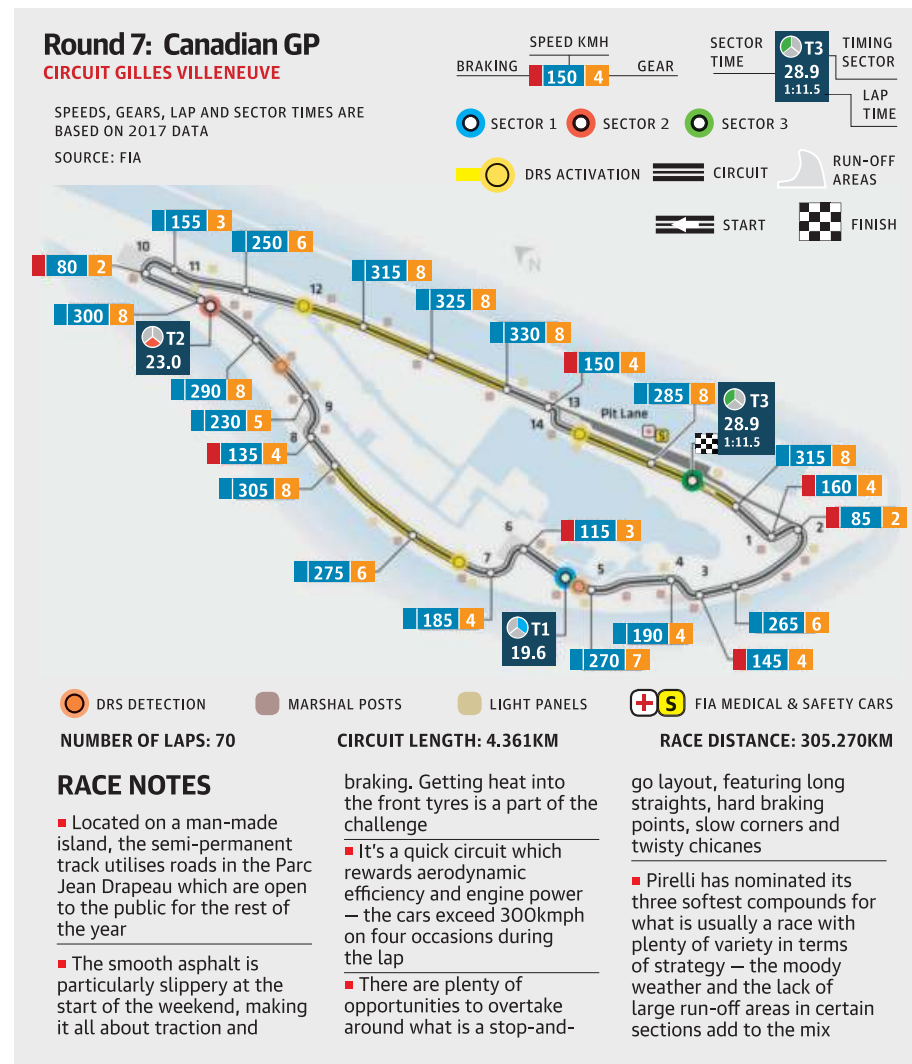
Most importantly, the team realised that the new engine regulations in 2014, with the hybrid turbo power units, would offer the opportunity for a quantum leap. Under Andy Cowell, the team managed just that. Ferrari and Renault dropped the ball.

## Power play

Mercedes came up with an innovative solution to its power unit – the turbocharger and the compressor were placed at either end of the internal combustion engine, offering the team several benefits in packaging and producing the highest power output of all the teams. This gave Mercedes three titles virtually uncontested.

Karun Chandhok, who has watched the team from close quarters, first as an F1 driver and now as an expert commentator, says, "In the first three years of this era, their power unit was the key ingredient to success, but I think that in 2017 and 2018, Ferrari first equalled and then overtook them in the power game.

"In parallel, however, the chassis side of things just got better and better. Once they built up this momentum and had a good group of people who all knew each other and worked well together, they were able to just churn out



## One-horse race

Mercedes has been F1's pre-eminent team since 2014

Season	Wins	Races	Win%
2014	16	19	84.21
2015	16	19	84.21
2016	19	21	90.48
2017	12	20	60.00
2018	11	21	52.38
2019*	6	6	100.00
Overall	80	106	75.47

In comparison, Ferrari, during its dominant run between 1999 and 2004, won 63 of 101 races (62.4%). Its best single-season win% was 88.2 in 2002 \* season in progress

## GAME THEORY

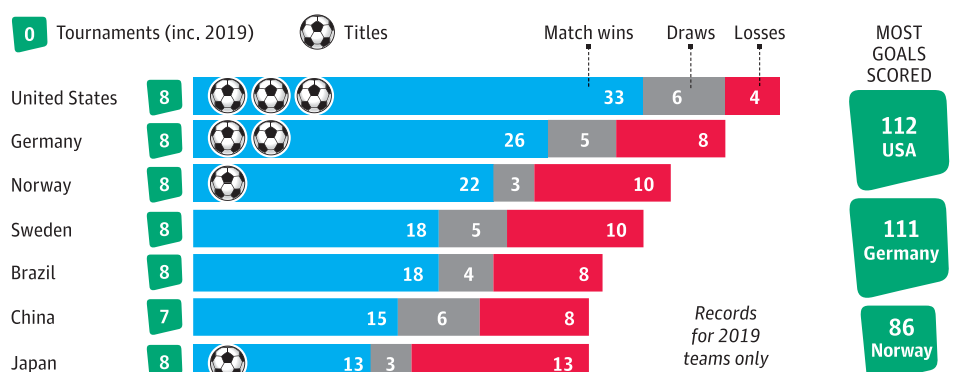
### Fifth time's the charm?

Brazil star Marta set a new World Cup goals record in 2015. The six-time FIFA World Player of the Year will aim to lift the trophy for the first time at her fifth tournament, played in France over the next month

### TOP SCORERS

Name (Country)	Tournaments	Goals
Marta (Brazil)	2003, 2007, 2011, 2015	15
Birgit Prinz (Germany)	1995, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2011	14
Abby Wambach (USA)	2003, 2007, 2011, 2015	14
Michelle Akers (USA)	1991, 1995, 1999	12
Sun Wen (China)	1991, 1995, 1999, 2003	11
Bettina Wiegmann (Germany)	1991, 1995, 1999, 2003	11
Ann Kristin Aarones (Norway)	1995, 1999	10
Heidi Mohr (Germany)	1991, 1995	10

**HEGEMON** Since the first World Cup in 1991, there have been seven tournaments. The United States is looking to claim the title for a record-extending fourth time. The side has the best overall record, with the most match wins and the most goals scored



Twenty-four teams will compete over four weeks in a bid to be crowned champion. A total of 52 matches will be played at nine venues, with the final taking place at Parc Olympique Lyonnais on July 7

## PICTURE THIS



### Ocean view

The 119th U.S. Open will be played at the eye-catching Pebble Beach Golf Links next week.

The links-style course, which is celebrating its 100th birthday this year, is hosting the Major for the sixth time – the most of any venue

over the last 50 years.

At 7,075 yards, Pebble Beach is one of the shortest courses on the PGA Tour – on paper, no match for massive modern-day drivers. But its greens are among the smallest in Major championship golf; ball-striking accuracy and smart tactical play are, therefore, more likely to

determine success than distance.

The intimidating Pacific Ocean and the unpredictable wind – the elements always play a part on links-style courses – add to the challenge.

Brooks Koepka, who recently won his second straight PGA Championship title, is looking for

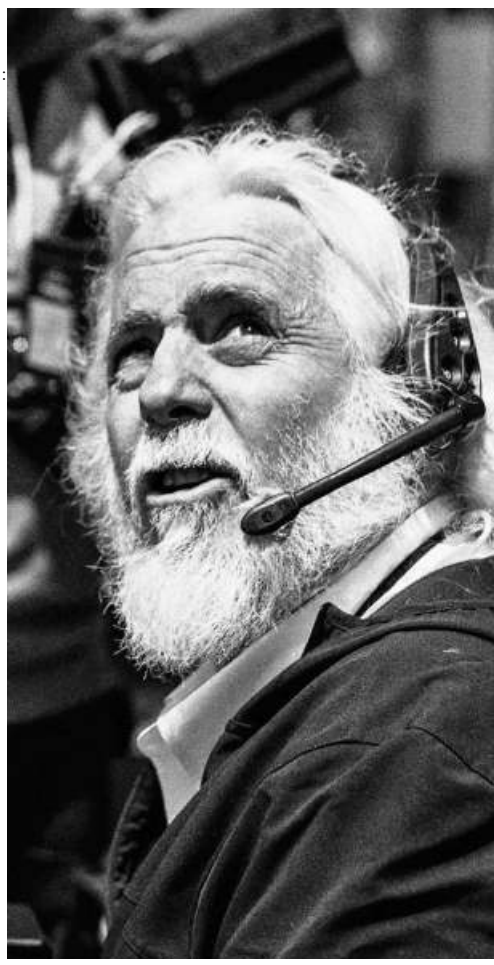
a three-peat at the U.S. Open, having claimed the crown in 2017 and 2018. At six to one, Koepka is the bookmakers' favourite for the tournament.

Dustin Johnson (7/1), Tiger Woods (12/1), Jordan Spieth (14/1) and Rory McIlroy (16/1) complete the list of contenders.



# 'A director is LIKE A LOVER'

Cinematographer Robert Richardson on working with three of the industry's biggest filmmakers and the visual language in *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*



**Freeze frame** (Clockwise from left) Robert Richardson, stills from *Django Unchained*, *Kill Bill* and *The Hateful Eight*



(2018), shot in Fiji, I was walking away from the lighting."

## Colour and Tarantino

Having done six feature films with Tarantino – from *Kill Bill* (1 and 2) to *Django Unchained* and *The Hateful Eight* – he says his approach to filming them would change in the way the director introduced each film to him. "He will say: 'You're going to do a western', or 'you are going to do a martial arts movie', or 'you're going to do a war film', or 'you're going to do a period film in 1969'. Then we talk about the way Quentin wants to shoot the film. And he talks about the colour."

Getting to the American filmmaker's most recent *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*, a nostalgia-soaked period piece starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Brad Pitt, he explains, "It's a brilliant film which is very rich in colour, with a

little more grain and grittiness to it. I pushed the colour higher, I lit more in some places than I liked, so the look is in the manner of a '60s or '70s television show." He also recalls the challenges of colour when working with 65mm lenses for Tarantino's *The Hateful Eight* (2015). "It was complicated because I had to learn the lenses and their attributes, how to turn a defect into a positive, and take care of the sharpness, the colour."

Known to be outspoken, Richardson has often discussed his relationship with the big trio: Stone, Scorsese and Tarantino. In fact, in an interview with *The Hollywood Reporter* a few years ago, he talked about the time when he took up a Scorsese film because a film by Stone was getting delayed. The latter saw it as a major betrayal. "Working with a director is like having a lover. Each one re-

quires something unique, with a different temperament and mood," he says. This is the same man who exited the credits of Brad Pitt starrer, *World War Z*, when the studio decided to release the film in 3D.

## For the love of Kali

Making the best of his fleeting visit to India, Richardson's mood seems upbeat. His connection to the country goes back many decades, he says, when he first came here on his honeymoon (his first wife was born in Varanasi). Over the years, the spiritual bug bit, and now he even has an altar at home, with idols of Kali and Shiva.

"I have been to India for numerous commercials, and to shoot the film *Eat Pray Love*. I love India. Each time I come back, India opens up to me," he concludes.

## Make or break

Behind Richardson's most challenging scenes



Recreating the assassination of John F Kennedy for Oliver Stone's political thriller *JFK* (1991) was very tough as we shot with several cameras in different formats at the same time.



The final battle sequence in Stone's *Platoon* (1986) was challenging. I was very inexperienced. Light was used in bursts, specifically and sparingly for the sequence.



Acing the concert sequences in Stone's biographical drama *The Doors* (1991) was tough. They were magnificently large and very real.



Creating a world of richly magical, golden-lit frames in Scorsese's historical adventure drama *Hugo* (2011) wasn't easy because it took a lot to get to that space.

NEHA BHATT

He has been shooting an ad film since daybreak in Delhi's blistering heat, but Robert Richardson looks fresh in formals as he steps in for his late evening interview. As he poses for the camera with his dramatic white mane, the three-time Academy Award-winning cinematographer is anything but exhausted.

"It's been a little hot for me," he admits with a laugh. "The sun rises very rapidly this time of the year, which makes it a little more complicated to shoot a good looking face if you are trying to utilise good light," says Richardson, known for his long collaborations with visionary directors Martin Scorsese, Quentin Tarantino and Oliver Stone.

In fact, the veteran has been in the news for the Cannes Film Festival's biggest premiere this year, Quentin Tarantino's *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*. However, he's currently director of photography for the global ad campaign of vodka brand, Absolut. Titled *Colourless*, it is set to release later this month, and addresses racism.

## Light art

His sharp, lush frames with astute backlighting and a widescreen aspect ratio have lent remarkable drama to films. Ironically for a cinematographer, Richardson's emphasis over a four-decade career has been on doing 'good films' over just 'good looking films'. To that end, his style can be fluid and unconventional. "I'm a chameleon when I work with different directors because if a certain director doesn't want to use a certain lighting style, and wants to work with more natural light, I go with it. For example, with Matthew Heineman, for *A Private War* (2018), there was no lightning at all. Even with Baltasar Kormákur's *Adrift*

## FOOD SPOT



RAHUL VERMA

Long before chefs became celebrities, there was Imtiaz Qureshi. Those were the days when what we know as gourmet food was restricted to a few top restaurants in the city. Dum Pukht, which celebrated the many splendours of Awadhi food, was one such restaurant at the ITC Maurya. And Chef Qureshi was the man who wielded the magic *karchi* there.

So, I was very happy to know that the chef's son Ahsan Ali Qureshi had followed in his father's footsteps. Last week, I had a taste of some of the dishes prepared by Ahsan, and was most impressed.

I am talking about a new delivery outlet called the Biryani Central. It has been set up by Chef Ahsan and Ishita

# After-Id celebrations

Biryani Central takes heritage and delivers it at your doorstep



**Dum maro dum** (left to right) Bombay paya biryani, biryani combo, dal bukhari • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sudha Yashvi, who has a rich background in marketing. They run a company called Cross Border Kitchens and Biryani Central from its outlet in Vasant Kunj. (75, 9, Kishanagarh Village, Vasant Kunj; thebiryanicentral.com, 9873333047/8 for orders). Right now they deliver only in

south Delhi, but will soon extend to Gurugram. They also cater and accept bulk orders.

I got a sampler, and thoroughly enjoyed the Awadhi Murgh biryani (₹275), a surprisingly light preparation of long-grained basmati rice with nicely succulent pieces of chicken resting in it. The

flavours of the chicken and the rice – enhanced by the fragrance of a natural attar – had mixed well together, and I had a very nice meal indeed of the biryani and an extremely creamy raita, with some salan on the side.

The galauti kababs (₹495) were rather good, too. The ka-

babs had been marinated with raw papaya, and the outcome was a soft, minced-meat kabab, flavoured with just the right mix of spices. I had that with some taftan (₹65), a tatty, puff-pastry kind of bread, and left the ghee-laden sheermal (₹75) for the Dal bukhari (₹325). The urad dal, slow-

cooked with some tomato puree, butter and cream, was superb. I think it outdid ITC Maurya's Bukhara dal.

What didn't work for me was the Hyderabad nihari (₹545). I found the goat meat and trotters dish a bit too bland. But the malai phirnee (₹150) was out of this world – granular rice mixed with creamy and thickened milk, topped with a generous helping of chopped nuts.

The menu is rather interesting. It includes Kathal burrahs (jackfruit marinated in hung curd, ₹395), Bombay masala biryani (with plums, deep-fried potatoes, ₹245), lal mirch ka aloo (potatoes spiced with red chillies, ₹295) and keema kaleji (minced meat slow-cooked with liver and freshly ground spices, ₹495). It also has haleem, a mix of grains and meat, garnished with fried onions, mint and lemon (₹650).

Though Eid is over, there is always time and a place in the stomach for the celebration of biryani and its allies.

The writer is a seasoned food critic

## PEOPLE

### Poetry in comedy

Pomedy brings together standup comedy and poetry, to offer a comment on society, by eliciting both laughs and affecting poignant moments

In January this year, Lakshay Dhupar, the CEO of Limewit, a company that offers untapped talent a platform, put three performers on stage at a tech fest in NIIT University, Neemrana. Lakshay, wasn't sure how many people would come. Delhi wasn't familiar with pomedy, a cross between poetry and stand-up comedy, and Lakshay himself knew that while the format had seen success in Mumbai, audiences differed between the two cities.

"To our utter surprise we were able to gather around 150 people," he says, with future editions running to house-full. Each version has picked up fresh talent, while also featuring a few of those who were hits the previous times.

Now in its sixth edition, Pomedy Eve V6.0 will have performances by two comedians and one pomedian. Lakshay is expecting the idea to go mainstream, so that future editions can be in larger auditoriums, like Siri Fort and Kamani. In terms of the process, "We first invite candidates to different open mics, and from there we make a choice," says Lakshay.

Of the three performers, Mohit Arora (a comedian) and Badel Sharma (a pomedian) have performed at previous versions of Pomedy, while it's a first for Amandeep (a comedian). For Mohit, who has also seen success online, it's just the beginning. Earlier this year, a video he put out on YouTube, crossed over a lakh views (it now has 3 lakh+ views). He told his family of his decision to pursue comedy full-time. Luckily, they were supportive. He practices in front of a mirror and enjoys being on stage more than the actual material creation.

Badel Sharma, a poet and comedian has integrated the two from school, and decided to go full-time with it after he finished his post-grad degree in MBA from Jamia Millia Islamia University. For him, poets and comedians have lots of things in common, the most important, being sensibility.

At Akshara Theatre, Baba Kharak Singh Marg; ₹199 per head; Saturday, June 8th, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; tickets at BookMyShow and eventshigh.com

SAKSHAM BAKSHI

## PURPOSE

### Screened for pride

In April, the gay dating and social networking app Blued, launched their first online queer-filmmaking contest. In under two months, they received over 60 entries from around the country, including Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, and Coimbatore. While Sanyam Sharma, the marketing director at Blued had curated the selections, the final 10 that made the cut were put to a vote. The five with the most votes are being screened today.

The initial purpose of Queer Flicks was two-fold: first, to find a way to creatively express the many realities, joys, issues, and concerns of the LGBTQIA community; and second, to be a platform for filmmakers and creative talent from the community. With the screening, Sharma adds that Blued hopes to engage not just with queer allies, but also with those who've had long-held misconceptions about the many identities within the spectrum.

Some of 10 films have already participated at multiple festivals. For instance, *Khwaish*, by Sumit Pawar, is fresh off its screening at Kashish, the Mumbai International Queer Film Festival. In November last year, Sumit, who is a coordinator at the India HIV/AIDS Alliance in Mumbai, had also taken the film to the Brixton Reel Film Festival in London. *Khwaish* follows the story of a middle-aged gay man's quest for love.

Some films try to convey more delicate struggles. For instance, there's Praveen Kumar M.'s *The Holy Mother*, that tries to go behind the physical and emotional struggles of a transwoman's quest to become a mother.

These two films, with their current 2nd and 3rd place on Blued's voting leader board, are sure to show at the final screening. The other films include *Outcast* by Birth by Shruti Kulkarni, *The Mirror* by Yadavendra Singh, and *Inaat* by Naveen Tokas. There will also be a stage adaptation of Ismat Chughtai's *Lihaaf*, directed by Shilpi Marwah and put up by the Sukhmanch Theatre Group.

Queer Flicks, 10:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; at the Russian Centre of Science and Culture; Mandi House

VANGMAYI PARAKALA

For a listing or to be featured here, email us at delhimetro@thehindu.co.in

## 5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



### LECTURE

#### State reorganisation

Dr. Sheela Bhide will deliver a lecture: *Challenges of States' Reorganisation: Case of Bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh. Any Lessons to be Learnt?* The speaker, a retired IAS officer, headed The Sheela Bhide Committee that oversaw the distribution of assets and liabilities of government companies between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

VENUE: Kamaladevi Complex, IIC  
TIME: 6 p.m.



### MUSIC

#### Performance

Today's schedule in the ongoing International Musical Convention of Spic Macay will feature the performances of Pandit Shivkumar Sharma on santoor, Vidushi Prabha Atre on Hindustani vocal. The line-up also includes Koodiyattam by Vidushi Kapila Venu and Ustad Wasifuddin Dagar on Dhrupad.

VENUE: Jawaharlal Nehru University  
TIME: 6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.



### FOOD

#### Sunday brunch

This summer, Tres, a restaurant and bar, has launched a botanical-inspired Sunday brunch menu, infusing the philosophy of farm to table. Some of the dishes that use botanical ingredients are: a salad of juniper-cured Scottish salmon with red onion, Jasper-baked flat bread with pulled lamb, and more.

VENUE: Tres, Block 13, Lodi Colony  
TIME: 12 noon - 4 p.m.



### THEATRE

#### Comedy

An Old World Culture will stage the English comedy play, *Animals Out of Paper*, tonight and tomorrow. Directed by Aditee Biswas, the play is based on a story written by Pulitzer-award-nominated Rajiv Joseph. A quirky comedy about the collision of mismatched people, it promises twists and turns of emotions.

VENUE: Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre  
TIME: 7:30 p.m.



### DESIGN

#### Fashion

The International School of Design is hosting a two-day fashion show under the theme *Think Design Summer Edition 2019*. Starting today, the show offers a wide range of women's dresses, fashion accessories and lifestyle products. The collections have been worked upon by the creative young minds of the institute.

VENUE: Hotel Crown Plaza, Okhla  
TIME: 5 p.m. onwards



Home automation meets handmade tradition in Swarovski's evolving collection of lights



# Changing up the chandelier

SUSANNA MYRTLE LAZARUS

When Baz Luhrmann's *The Great Gatsby* won an Oscar for Best Production Design in 2014, the opulent chandeliers in Tom Buchanan's palatial East Egg house were one of the things everyone remembers. The opulent crystal creations were custom-made to fit the aesthetic of the time, by the artists and engineers at Swarovski's lighting division at Plattsburgh, New York, (a four-hour drive from where the movie is set).

These hand-crafted chandeliers are getting a modern makeover as the company sets its sights on being future-ready, says Roger Carthew, Senior Vice President of Swarovski's Global

Lighting Business.India is a priority market, he states.

"There is a strong, growing economy, as well as the connection with crystals, and with Swarovski as a brand. So it was really about finding the right partners," he says, of their launch in Chennai's Drapes & Dreams. While traditional styles are a perennial favourite, he says there is a marked move towards contemporary products, with cleaner lines, a minimalist aesthetic and LED technology.

### Future ready

Even as architecture, home décor trends and a demand for multi-functional lighting impact their work, the brand has stepped into the home auto-

mation space with a line called Infinite Aura, launched last year. "We were looking for a product that re-imagined what chandeliers could look like in five years," he says, adding that it was created in consultation with San Francisco-based design firm, Ideo.

The multi-functional pieces are controlled by a standalone app. "It has the ability to be a functional light when your kids are doing their homework, and when you're hosting dinner, it can set the ambience, and be a discussion piece," he says. The same technology was used by Marjan van Obel in her winning entry for the Swarovski Designers of the Future Prize, which was showcased at the Salon del Mobile in Milan last month. It will also be

brought to the Indian market later this year, during the festive season.

While he doesn't share exact figures, Carthew says it is "the biggest investment we've ever made in product development for lighting". It is also a technology that can be incorporated into their more traditional chandeliers (from approximately ₹1.38 lakh for a sconce to ₹3.46 lakh for a large pendant). Currently, they are in the process of researching what buyers would want from a tech point of view. "Sometimes, they just want it to be beautiful to look at," he says.

### Handmade history

What started in 1966 with the Sputnik chandelier, which still graces the Me-

tropolitan Opera House in New York City, now has operations spanning North America, Europe and Asia. "We've evolved into two verticals: consumer-driven retail, and a bespoke chandelier business (see box).

In 2007, we also acquired Schonbek (known for their handcrafted crystal chandeliers since 1870), for their handmade tradition," he says. They are still a small percentage of the decorative lighting segment, but "we are keen on growing", Carthew says.

Swarovski Lighting, MG Road, Ghitorni. Chandeliers upwards of ₹1.25 lakh; ceiling lights from ₹79,000. Schonbek's bespoke range starts from ₹1.25 lakh

## The collaborators

As part of their bespoke range, Swarovski also customises their retail offerings. "We are seeing less formal dining areas and more open plan, casual living spaces. So we're moving away from designing for big entryway or foyer chandeliers, and are looking at ceiling pendant pieces," explains Carthew. At the same time, they work on large, complex installations, too, conceptualised by their design and engineering team. Currently, this includes projects in Mumbai with Mukesh Ambani. They also work with architects like Steve Leung, who recently created an installation called 'Shades in Ascent,' which illuminated the entrance of Art Central in Hong Kong. The brand has always been open to working with artists across genres, and it is no different with their lighting segment. Under the Crystal Palace programme, they've collaborated with more than 60 designers over 15 years, including Zaha Hadid, Yves Behar and Tom Dixon. "We understand that collaborating with local, well-known designers is important to create excitement. It has traditionally been very European-centric, but we are in talks with a Chinese designer for a 2020 collection. While nothing has been confirmed in India, we definitely have plans for it in the near future," he assures.

## Spot the Schonbek

How many of these have you seen on the big screen?



**THE GREAT GATSBY (2013)**  
Nine chandeliers can be found in the home of Tom and Daisy Buchanan, including this opulent representation of the 1920s.



**DIE ANOTHER DAY (2002)**  
This 16-tiered Jubilee chandelier, seen in the James Bond movie, features 3,949 crystals and 1,062 glass rods.

**OCEANS 13 (2007)**  
Cascade by Vincent Van Duysen is a five-metre-tall piece made up of strings of crystal combined with LEDs.



## POOCH CAFE



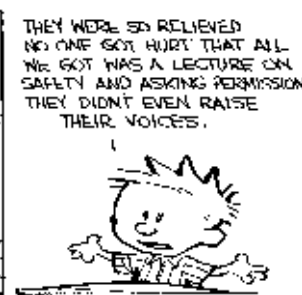
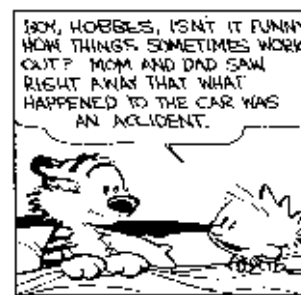
## PEANUTS



## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



## CALVIN AND HOBBS



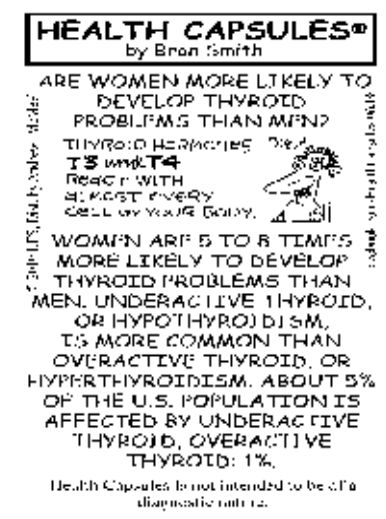
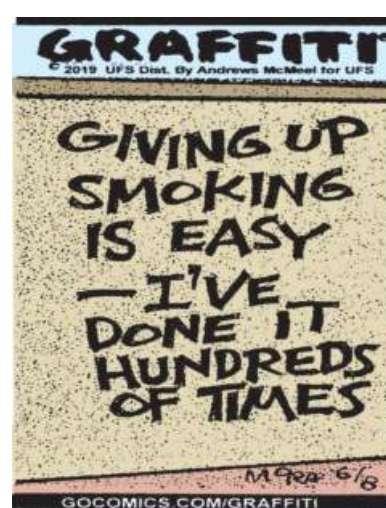
## TIGER



## WUMO



## PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



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**Across**

- 1 Huggable (6)
- 4 Turned - malodorous (6)
- 8 Above the horizon (5)
- 9 Absurd pretence (7)
- 10 Supervise (7)
- 11 Impossible (3,2)
- 12 Awarded medals (9)
- 17 Criminal (5)
- 19 European Union's most southerly capital (7)
- 21 Educational institution (7)
- 22 Tartan cloth (5)
- 23 Herb tea (6)
- 24 Trapped (6)

**Down**

- 1 Incentive (6)
- 2 Bloat (7)
- 3 Golf course by the sea (5)
- 5 Opposing (7)
- 6 Repeated rhythmic phrase (5)
- 7 (Spanish) chaperone (6)
- 9 Intervening space (9)
- 13 Institutional eating place (7)
- 14 Hopelessness (7)
- 15 Remnant (6)
- 16 Praised (6)
- 18 Sprawls (5)
- 20 Castrated chicken (5)

Solution will appear in *The Hindu* dated June 10, 2019.

Solution No. 13090

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# Space station will be open to tourists from next year



**Futuristic vacation:** NASA chief financial officer Jeff DeWit and ISS deputy director Robyn Gatens making the announcement in New York on Friday. **AFP**

A night's stay is priced at \$35,000 and a round trip ticket costs \$58 million

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
NEW YORK  
U.S. space agency NASA said on Friday that it would open up the International Space Station to business ventures including space tourism — with stays priced at \$35,000 a night — as it seeks to financially disengage from the orbiting research lab.  
“NASA is opening the International Space Station to commercial opportunities and marketing these oppor-

tunities as we've never done before,” NASA chief financial officer Jeff DeWit said in New York. There will be up to two short private astronaut missions per year, said Robyn Gatens, deputy director of the ISS. The missions will be for stays of up to 30 days. As many as a dozen private astronauts could visit the ISS per year, NASA said.  
These travellers would be ferried to the orbiter exclusively by the two companies

currently developing transport vehicles for NASA: SpaceX, with its Crew Dragon capsule, and Boeing, which is building one called Starliner. These companies would choose the clients and bill for the trip to the ISS: around \$58 million for a round trip ticket.  
That is the average rate the companies will bill NASA for taking the space adventurers up to the ISS. The tourists will have to pay NASA

for their stay in space, for food, water and use of the life support system on the orbiter. That will run about \$35,000 per night.  
The space station does not belong to NASA. It was built along with Russia starting in 1998, and other countries participate in the mission and send astronauts. But the U.S. has paid for and controls most of the modules that make up the orbiter.

# U.S. firms make bookings for private missions

KENNETH CHANG

Aerospace companies in the U.S. have already made reservations for the space tourism missions announced by NASA on Friday.  
Bigelow Aerospace of North Las Vegas, Nevada, has reserved four launches. The company will use SpaceX, the rocket company run by Elon Musk, to take private astronauts. Each flight would have four seats. Axiom Space of Houston

is also arranging flights and hopes to fly tourists next year.  
In the 2000s, seven private citizens did visit the space station, but those trips were arranged through the Russians, which operate half of the station. At the time, NASA said it was not interested in such ventures.  
NASA also announced that it will be calling for proposals for adding a commercial module to the space station this month. **NY TIMES**

# '1 mn new cases of STIs detected daily globally'

WHO says it is a wake-up call for action

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI  
Every day, more than 1 million new cases of curable sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are detected in people aged 15-49 years, according to latest data released by the World Health Organisation (WHO). This amounts to more than 376 million new cases annually of four infections — chlamydia, gonorrhoea, trichomoniasis and syphilis.  
Dr. Peter Salama, executive director, Universal Health Coverage, WHO, elaborated “We are seeing a concerning lack of progress in stopping the spread of sexually transmitted infections worldwide. This is a wake-up call for a concerted effort to ensure everyone, everywhere, can access the services they need to prevent and treat these debilitating diseases.”  
Published online by the bulletin of the WHO, the research shows that, among men and women aged 15-49 years, there were 127 million new cases of chla-

mydia in 2016; 87 million cases of gonorrhoea; 6.3 million cases of syphilis; and 156 million cases of trichomoniasis.  
These STIs have a profound impact on the health of adults and children worldwide.  
**Harmful impact**  
If untreated, they can lead to serious and chronic health effects that include neurological and cardiovascular disease, infertility, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirths, and increased risk of HIV. They are also associated with significant levels of stigma and domestic violence.  
Syphilis alone caused an estimated 2,00,000 stillbirths and newborn deaths in 2016, making it one of the leading causes of infant mortality globally, WHO said. Timely and affordable testing and treatment are crucial for reducing the burden of STIs globally, alongside efforts to encourage people who are sexually active to get screened for STIs.

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TIME- 11 AM - 1:30 PM AT OLD RAJINDER NAGAR FROM 10th JUNE

THE LUKMAAN TEAM LED BY S. ANSARI

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20 IN TOP 100 FROM OUR GS ETHICS PROGRAMS IN CSE 2018

The students of Lukmaan IAS have maintained the record of securing among the highest in Ethics GS Paper-IV since 2013 including Arpit (2016-133 Marks) & Arun (2017-112 Marks).

**ETHICS REGULAR BATCH FROM 10TH JUNE**

**ETHICS TEST SERIES FROM 14TH JUNE**

**ETHICS CASE STUDY BATCH FROM 17TH JUNE**

**ETHICS (QIP) FOR 2020 BATCH FROM 21ST JUNE**

**ETHICS ENRICHMENT BATCH AFTER PT RESULT**

**THE HIGHEST MARKS IN CSE 2018**

NAME	RANK	ETHICS MARKS	GS MARKS
MANISHA	33	131	460
NAMRATA	12	125	464
K. V. REDDY	07	121	448
ALOK	41	119	455

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I am very thankful to the Institute and Anshu Sir for their support during my journey. I started with an average score and gradually improved with inputs from Anshu sir and I have scored nearly same what I scored at the academy during my test series. The Institute has really helped me in broadening my outlook and improve my approach in answering questions. I shall always be grateful to Lukmaan IAS.

**AIR 14 CSE-2018**

**MARKS IN PUBLIC ADMN. 314**

**ANKITA CHOUDHARY**

The students of Lukmaan IAS have maintained the record of securing the highest in Public Admn. Optional since 2011.

**PUBLIC ADMN. BY S. ANSARI**

**PA MAINS TEST SERIES FOR MAINS 2019: 15TH JUNE**

**PA ENRICHMENT BATCH FOR MAINS 2019: 17TH JUNE**

**PA FOUNDATION FOR 2020: 07TH OCT.**

**PA QIP FOR 2020: 15TH JUNE**

Abhilash Mishra (AIR - 05 CSE 2016) secured 334 Marks which is since 2013 still the highest in Public Admn. optional. We expect this record to be broken by one of the upcoming Lukmaan's students.

NAME	RANK	MARKS	YEAR
ANJU	272	333	2018
PURNA BORAH	149	311	2017
ABHILASH MISHRA	05	334	2016
ASHWINI PANDAY	34	267	2015
TUSHAR SINGLA	86	287	2014
UDITA SINGH	46	231	2013
PRINCE DHAWAN	03	394	2011

## MAINS TEST SERIES 2019

**GS MAINS TEST SERIES FROM : 16TH JUNE**

**ESSAY TEST SERIES FROM : 21ST JUNE**

**STRATEGY SESSION BY S. ANSARI - ON 13TH JUNE**

**STRATEGY SESSION BY S. ANSARI & PROF. MUJTABA HUSSAIN - ON 14TH JUNE**

### OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

<b>HISTORY</b> REGULAR BY: R.S CHAUHAN / HARI MOHAN	<b>17TH JUNE</b>	<b>SOCIOLOGY</b> REGULAR BY: PROF. MUJTABA HUSSAIN / PRASHANT KAUSHIK	<b>17TH JUNE</b>
<b>LAW</b> REGULAR BY: ADITYA TIWARI	<b>24TH JUNE</b>	<b>GEOGRAPHY</b> REGULAR BY: DR. G.R PATIL	<b>17TH JUNE</b>

**TEST SERIES FOR THESE OPTIONALS FROM 14TH & 15TH JUNE**

**SOCIOLOGY ENRICHMENT BATCH : 12TH JUNE & TEST SERIES BY PROF. MUJTABA HUSSAIN.**

**EDITORIAL DISCUSSION (CURRENT AFFAIRS) CLASSES**  
ED IS BASED ON HARD WORK. IT IS NOT FOR SHORT-CUT

RANKS BENEFITTED FROM ED NOTES & CLASSES

- Most of 170+ qualified in CSE 2018
- AIR - 56 & AIR - 495 in 2017
- AIR - 05 & AIR - 07 in 2016

**BATCH COMMENCES ON 16th JUNE**

**GS WSDP FOR MAINS 2019**  
(Writing Skill Development Program)  
**For All Paper-I, II, III & IV From 12TH JUNE**

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